FBIS DAILY REPORT

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CONTINUED REPORTAGE ON MALVINAS ISLANDS ISSUE

OAS Speech

PY060114 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez' address to protocol session of OAS in Washington on 5 April — recorded]

[Text] Ambassadors and Representatives. Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am grateful to the president for his words inspired more by friendship than by [word indistinct], and to the council for the honor bestowed upon me by receiving me here this afternoon. I would also like to be excused for a personal expression of the emotion and nostalgia that I feel this afternoon here. More than 14 years ago I was here in this hall for a protocol session to tell you about Argentina's position in America. Also this hall and this organization remind me of days which are perhaps among the happiest in my lifetime and among those of which I feel most proud. Those were the days when it fell upon me [words indistinct] which modified the OAS Charter.

Finally, I do want to mention here that when I became foreign minister on 22 December 1981 I pointed out that Latin America is a priority in the Argentine foreign policy. Latin America is our priority; it is the context of our [words indistinct]. I repeated this concept and noted the priority of Latin America in the Argentine foreign policy and to what extent America, America as a whole, is the topic number one [words indistinct].

Today, I will address a concrete and definite question, because I want you, our brothers, to be duly informed through the representative of the Argentine Government about the real situation and the truth in this old dispute which causes so much distress to us today.

Argentina recovered the Argentine territory of the Malvinas Islands on 2 April. The background of this old dispute is well known by this organization. On many occasions, the fraternal nations of America have adopted the cause of the Malvinas as the common cause of the Americas in a demonstration of moving solidarity. However, it does not seem unnecessary to me to make a review to bring the topic into focus.

In 1833 the British fleet by force routed the Argentine population and authorities from the Malvinas Islands. At that time they violated on the islands the legitimate rights of the then young Argentine nation as an heir of Spain. That illegitimate takeover created no legal right, and politically it reflected the imperialistic behavior of the European powers of the 19th century in America, Asia and Africa.

The topic of the Malvinas Islands is a colonial topic, and we have always treated it so and so did this organization as well, thus eliciting the constant and invariable solidarity of all the nations of our region. Nor has Great Britain denied such a character to this topic, so much so that it was placed under the ministry of colonies. The United Nations treated the topic in the same way ever since it began to deal with the question of nonautonomous territories. The Republic of Argentina never consented to that seizure of part of its territory, and it has been demanding from Great Britain due reparation for such injury since 1833. Over the past 149 years, all the Argentine Governments have maintained solidly and continuously the same position of protest against the arbitrary occupation.

The Malvinas question has been a permanent element of strain in Argentine-British relations, and at times it disturbed them seriously, all the more seriously since from the days of our independence those relations have been greatly important on account of intense trade, industrial complementation and ample financial cooperation between the two countries.

But Great Britain's refusal, stubbornness and negative attitude to at least discuss the question never changed over 120 years.

An illusion appeared in 1960 when the United Nations -- concerned with the question of colonialism and willing to cooperate in resolving colonial situations -- opened up a possibility. Perhaps with some naivete, we thought that we could move toward the solution to the already old problem. That illusion brightened up in 1960 when the United Nations General Assembly approved the historical resolution No 1514 proposing the end of all forms of colonialism and asserting that any attempt to completely or partially undercut national unity and territorial integrity was incompatible with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter.

The same revolution created an instrument to fulfill its objectives by establishing a special committee for the examination of the situation of colonial countries and peoples to which the declaration regarding the concession of independence could apply. We submitted the question to it and, recognizing the existence of a dispute over the islands, the committee urged Argentina and the United Kingdom to negotiate a solution to the dispute.

However, the negotiations dragged on indefinitely due to Great Britain's reluctance to deal with the central problem of the question. By contrast, Argentina demonstrated a maximum of flexibility by adopting a series of measures aimed at facilitating communications between the islands and the Argentine mainland, as well as to improve the living conditions of the islanders.

Thus, Argentina built on the island a metallic landing strip to provide regular flights for passengers, parcel post and cargo. It also installed a radio tower to make air traffic possible, and facilitated the supply of fuel, food and other necessary items.

Because of these gestures and the permanent good disposition of my country, the UN General Assembly was able to draw up resolution No 3160 of 14 December 1973, reiterating the need to put an end to colonial situations while noting the following points: First, expressing deep concern over the fact that 8 years had elapsed since resolution No 2065 was passed without any substantial progress in negotiations; and second, expressing recognition of the continuous efforts made by the Argentine Government in keeping with the pertinent decisions of the General Assembly to facilitate decolonization and promotion of the well being of the islands' population.

That was in 1973. The General Assembly could have just as well made the some recommendations every year, because Great Britain's only response was its continuous footdragging with the consequent lack of progress in negotiations.

Argentina has always had the broadest support of all the countries of the Americas in this dispute, not only because of the legitimacy of its rights, but also because putting an end to anachronist colonial situations is the constant, unequivocal and always reasserted aspiration of the countries in the region.

The OAS has filled volumes of paper with pronouncements on this issue. I could cite many of them on and on, but there is one in Resolution 33 of the Bogota conference -- the ninth inter-American conference which drew up the OAS Charter -- that sums of the region's position on the issue. The resolution on colonies and occupied territories in the Americas and the creation of the inter-American Commission on Dependent Territories affirms this basic point in marvelous words: The historical process of the independence of the Americas will not have concluded as long as there are people in the continent who remain subordinated to colonial regimes, or territories occupied by non-American countries.

Gentlemen, these are words which remind us of the spirit of the great liberators who fought against colonialism: of Bolivar and San Martin, of Sucre and O'Higgins, the men who fought in Chacabuco and Maique; the spirit of the men who fought in Boyacai and in Carabobo; the men who fought in the high pampas of Junin; of the men who fought in the great battle, the great final victory of Ayacucho.

I do not want to expound too much on this position, with citations relative to the concrete case of the Malvinas Islands. We have never lacked solidarity on this issue. Whenever this case was brought up, the position in the region has been clear, precise, without restrictions. That solidarity has caused Argentina to give its deepest recognition to its brotherly nations of the continent.

Gentlemen: What has been the British argument to oppose this just demand? The argument employed by the United Kingdom to oppose the negotiation on the sovereignty over the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands has been this: the desire of the islanders.

The United Nations throughout its resolution has referred to the question of the people's interests. And Argentina, throughout the years, has expressed total respect for those interests, taking into account the call of the UN General Assembly. Who are those islanders? They are 1,800 British persons who have been sent there since 1833 to replace those Argentine inhabitants who were expelled from the islands. These islanders make up a fluctuating population which decreases constantly, made up to a large extent of officials of the British Government, or by employees of the Falkland Island Company, a typical colonial enterprise with monopolistic privileges which made up the means, the instrument, to consolidate the interests of the empire.

Gentlemen, by any chance can these people, who are few in number, who have been installed, a large part of whom have spent only a period of their lives in the islands, be considered the population in the sense understood by international law? Can these people thwart the negotiation between governments on the sovereignty of territories, suggested by the resolutions of the UN General Assemblies?

Throughout all the lengthy negotiations, Argentina has offered all kinds of guarantees and facilities to the islanders, and the Argentine interest in those islanders is demonstrated with those measures I just mentioned, and by a large number of proposals presented by my government and systematically rejected by the British Government. I am not going to cite them in order not to extend my speech too much. But I do want to tell you -- and I can reiterate it before this assenbly -- that Argentina is in a position to fully respect the resolutions of the UN General Assembly, and to satisfy the interests of the islanders, in an absolute manner, without any hesitation, without any limitations.

It is appropriate, however, to quote here once again what the president of the Republic of Argentina said on 2 April. "The Argentine position can in no way be considered a form of aggression against the present inhabitants of the islands. Their rights and ways of life will be respected with the same largesse with which we respected those peoples we liberated during our independence movement. Our forces will take actions only to the extent that these are strictly necessary. They will in no way disrupt the life of the islanders. On the contrary, they will protect those institutions and persons who agree to coexist with us."

Early in February this year, the Argentine Government made in writing a number of specific proposals designed to accelerate the negotiations, to institutionalize the talks, so that these might have a pre-established periodical pace. In making these proposals, Argentina expressly asked the British Government to give a conclusive reply to these proposals at the meeting I mentioned earlier which was held on 26-27 February.

The United Kingdom has not responded as of this day to those proposals, which had pre-established agendas and which were designed to truly accelerate the negotiations aimed at obtaining the recognition of the Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and to obtain significant results in a reasonable period.

A reply had been requested for March but March elapsed without a reply being received. And, I repeat, we have not received a reply to this day. The Argentine Government then reached the conclusion that 149 years of claims and 15 years of negotiations had been useless and had taken us nowhere.

In those days of February, Argentina issued the following communique: Argentina has negotiated with Great Britain with patience, loyalty and good faith for more than 15 years within the framework outlined by the appropriate UN resolutions in order to find a solution to their dispute over those islands. The new system proposed, the communique said, is an effective step toward achieving a prompt solution to the dispute. Yet, should this not be achieved, Argentina reserves the right to terminate this mechanism and to freely follow that procedure which would be in its best interest.

Yet the fact that negotiations had been exhausted was not a decisive factor in the events that took place in recent days.

The dispute had caused tensions and difficulties in the past. Peace and security in the region had on several occasions been threatened by the persistent colonialist presence. In 1976 the activities of a British ship, the "Shackleton," under the protection of a British Navy ship, the "Endurance," caused a tense situation which provoked a declaration by the inter-American Juridical Committee which, among other things, said: "The presence of foreign warships in waters adjacent to American states and the intimidatory announcement by British authorities that other ships were being dispatched constitute a threat to peace and security on the continent and a flagrant violation of international laws."

This year an Argentine firm signed a contract with a British firm for the breaking-up of old whaling factories located on the South Georgia Islands, which had been abandoned there for 40 years. The contract was signed in Great Britain and the Argentine contractor rented a merchant ship for hauling the necessary equipment. The workers had secured the so-called provisional document which has allowed Argentines to visit the islands and the islanders to visit the Argentine main land since communications were established in (?1976).

The British Embassy in Buenos Aires was aware of the details of this operation. The ship "Bahia Buen Suceso" took the workers to the South Georgia Islands where it left a group of them to continue the work. This simple commercial operation, which was duly contracted and known to the British Government, enraged the British Government. The British deputy foreign secretary said that as a result of the landing on the islands, a British Navy ship -- the "Endurance," again -- had been dispatched to the area in order to urge the workers to leave the island and, should they refuse, to take them by force to Port Stanley from where they would be sent to Buenos Aires.

The "Endurance," which was in that region, is equipped with two cannons and one helicopter and can launch 12 missiles. The disproportionate reaction of dispatching a warship to dislodge 12 workers who had been working peacefully in a legal operation and the announcement of the British press situated on the Georgia Islands and [words indistinct] seemed an exaggerated reaction by the British Government which naturally alarmed the Argentine Government.

The juridical precedent set by the inter-American Juridical Committee then quite clearly applied the presence of the "Endurance" and the intimidatory announcement that other ships were being dispatched constituted an act of aggression.

That exaggerated, bellicose action of the British Government went beyond the bottom line of what can be tolerated. Argentina then decided not to stand idly by, seeing how in the very territory it has been peacefully claiming for 150 years its own citizens were being subjected to threats and humiliation.

To the lack of reply to the specific proposals we made in February -- which I mentioned earlier -- we thus had this fresh proof of Great Britain's absolute lack of desire to achieve a just agreement.

We are now confronted with a de facto situation which has been worsened by the threats made public by the British Government. The Argentine Government, I repeat, is prepared to enter negotiations which could be conducted on this subject. Speaking before the UN Security Council last Saturday, he said we would seek to find an adequate solution to the problem. I am repeating that assertion here today before our brothers of the continent.

We will act on the basis of our inalienable rights, backed by the pronouncements of all those countries which have recognized the Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands. I want to emphasize that many [Security] Council members -- even those who voted for the British resolution due to their objection to the procedure used by Argentina -- have recognized my country's sovereign rights and have publicly made known their position, as they had done earlier at the United Nations, within the inter-American system and at the conference of nonaligned countries.

Yet it is in Latin America -- the natural environment in which we feel comforted and reassured -- where we have our greatest support. Argentina has conveyed through me its regret over the UN Security Council's resolution. But at no time have we felt alone. In addition to the stirring speech by Panamanian Foreign Minister Illueca -- whose words, should be repeated time and again -- and the cooperative position assumed by the entire Panamanian delegation, the representatives of Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay and Brazil asked to speak before the council. Outside the auditorium, the foreign ministers of Uruguay, Honduras and Venezuela made remarks voicing their support for our country.

I am randomly selecting passages of the Venezuelan statement: "... Reiterates its solidarity with the just claims of the sister republic of Argentina which had seen its territory usurped by a colonialist, arrogant power. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and North Ireland, in the case of the Malvinas Islands like in other historical cases, cannot claim any other right than that arising from usurpation and force in the face of the just aspiration of the Argentine nation. We draw attention to the UN resolution passed today which, by merely describing the actions carried out by Argentina; by making no reference to those of the United Kingdom; by approving the draft proposed by the United Kingdom -- which is a party directly involved in the conflict; and by overlooking the just motives of the Argentine Republic, has overlooked the main cause of the problem, which is the territorial usurpation consumated by the occupying colonial power. This situation is cause for serious concern to those of us who are engaged in promoting the practical, peaceful solution of territorial controversies, which must be considered thoroughly and not observed with indifference by the big powers and by Third World countries to the detriment of the organization in those cases which might lead to situations which could become a serious threat to peace."

This Latin American support encourages us to study the steps to be taken within the Latin American system when the circumstances thus requires. There is an extremely delicate instrument, which must be used with extreme prudence, but which is and has been a fundamental element within this system.

I am referring, of course, to the inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty [TIAR], the updated version of that slogan "America for Americans" which had employed in so many different ways before the TIAR was implemented in 1947.

Article 4 of that treaty defines "America" for the purpose of reciprocal assistance as being that geographic zone in which the contracting parties agree that an armed attack by any state against an American state will be considered an attack against all American states; and consequently, each of the contracting parties is committed to aid in facing the attack, making use of the right which stems from the legitimate individual and collective defense which acknowledges Article 51 of the UN Charter, as provided for in its Article 3.

Article 6 refers to an attack which is not armed; and it has been interpreted in a rather broad manner on previous occasions. Article 9 also cites concrete cases of what must be understood as aggression.

As I said, the issue is under study by my government. We will make consultations with all American foreign ministries on this important matter. Perhaps the time will come to test whether the TIAR is useful or whether, as it has been said, is just an instrument for certain kinds of problems and directed against certain kind of ideas. Perhaps this is an opportunity to study what is understood by inter-American solidarity and cooperation -- an idea cited in the whereas part of the treaty -- in addition to the objective of guaranteeing peace through all possible means.

This council has gathered several times to listen to the voice of illustrious American foreign ministers, who, before me, had come to express their opinions and their ideas regarding the different problems in the continent: the problems of the economic backwardness, social dissatisfaction, the ideological confrontations and so many other subjects of the current situation in the continent which were the object of attention of this illustrious council.

Today I came to speak of things which at this time in this century, at this stage of the development of history, seem incredible. I did not come today to speak of the subjects which merely have to do with our times and with this century. Today, I came to speak about the European metropolis, of the colonies, of imperial navies, because the old colonial issue which we thought had been overcome has just been repeated in our continent, with all its crudeness and in the most classic forms.

I want to leave all rhetoric aside. It is useless to revive passions when clear justice exists. Our foreign policy, that of the Republic of Argentina, has always been lofty, conciliatory and prudent. I firmly believe, gentlemen, that today it will not lose any of those qualities.

We are convinced of our right and we will know how to keep it with the necessary firmness and prudence and reach the honorable solution we all desire, through dignified and peaceful arrangements. I only want to remind you at this moment that there has not been a single moment in the life of the Republic of Argentina when, before the truth of history, it has not had its Malvinas Islands. Thank you.

Junta Outlines Steps

PY060507 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0408 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Argentine military junta communique No 15]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Apr (TELAM) -- The military junta, in order to maintain and consolidate what has been achieved and for the tranquillity of the entire nation, hereby reports:

1. All of the measures to be taken by the Malvinas military government will be intended for achieving the tranquillity of islanders, for assuring order, and the rendering of public services and the administration of justice, upholding all of the islanders' rights.

2. The obligations to the islanders to which Argentina has committed itself during the lengthy period of diplomatic negotiations with Britain will be respected.

3. The following steps will be taken aimed at improving the islanders' standard of living:

A. The preservation and increase in number of jobs, as a consequence of the promotion of the commercial exchange.

B. The improvement of the supply system from the continent.

C. The rendering of new services, such as: 1) banks; 2) permanent post office service; 3) radio and television; 4) improved medical service.

4. The current sanitary restrictions on incoming food and animals will not be changed. [Words indistinct] to preserve the islanders' life style.

Politicians Briefed

PY060441 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0244 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 5 Apr (NA) -- The government has taken a new step directed at strengthening the internal front in the face of Britain's war threat: tonight it summoned politicians from different parties to briefings by Interior Minister Gen Alfredo Saint Jean and by Gen Osvaldo Garcia, chief of the Malvinas theater of operations.

After an almost 4-hour meeting with personalities from different parties, Minister Saint Jean said: "Hard and tense hours lay ahead of us; they will call for courage and decision."

The meeting, which was held at the government house, was attended, among others, by Radical Civic Union Chairman Carlos Contin, by Justicialist Party Chairman Felipe Bittel, by Oscar Alende, Alberto Robredo, Jorge Abelardo Ramo and Guillermo Acuna Anzorena.

A rumor that the interior minister was to swear in the Malvinas military governor during a ceremony to be attended by politicians and former presidents was disproved by mid-afternoon.

It was recalled that the Malvinas Islands are a military station and that it will be headed by an active general. Therefore, he will be sworn in by Gen Osvaldo Garcia, the chief of the theater of operations.

Former Economy Minister Lorenzo Sigaut and businesswoman Amalia Lacroze de Fortabat also attended the meeting at the government house.

President Galtieri this afternoon held a meeting with Maj Gen Osvaldo Garcia, the chief of the Malvinas theater of operations, to discuss matters relevant to the operations of the army troops as they refer to the development of the situation on the islands.

Meanwhile, there was absolute silence in military circles concerning the measures to be taken in the next few days. It was reiterated that all reports regarding the movement of troops will be channelled through the joint staff.

Even though military sources have revealed the deep expectations that the course of developments is raising, all of them agreed that the armed forces have enough operational capacity to face possible British aggression.

Dispatch of Fleet Condemned

PY060215 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0155 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 5 Apr (NA) -- The Argentine Government condemned today the departure of a Great Britain naval force toward the south Atlantic, and added that "one cannot think of a decision of this nature in the civilized world," while it continued with its diplomatic efforts, and consolidated its military presence in the islands in an accelerated manner.

The departure of approximately 40 ships of the Royal Navy toward the zone of the Malvinas Islands was condemned by Interior Minister Alfredo Saint Jean, while on the diplomatic front, the government was making a new effort to explain to the international community the reasons which led Argentina to recover the Malvinas Islands, occupied by Great Britain since 1833.

Possible UK Base Readied

PY051715 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1507 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Ascension Island, 5 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- British officials today adopted security measures on Ascension Island in the mid-south Atlantic, while speculation has it that the island could play a role in Great Britain's plans to recover the Malvinas Islands.

The island's administrator, Bernard Pauncefort, said that movement on the island's air strip would be restricted to authorized traffic, adding that crews of visiting yachts will no longer be allowed to come on land.

He said that he could not comment on the situation regarding the air strip for security reasons.

Four British Hercules transport aircraft landed on the island during the weekend.

Ascension Island, a small volcanic atoll, is located 5,600 km from the Malvinas Islands and is within the reach of transport aircraft, which, nevertheless, will have to land and refuel before returning. The island is out of range for combat planes.

Ascension Island, a British possession used as a U.S. base during World War II, may be used by British forces as a platform for operations.

Interior Minister's Comments

PY060038 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1910 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Apr (TELAM) -- The interior minister, Maj Gen Alfredo Saint Jean, has said on leaving government house that we have full sovereign rights over the Malvinas Islands and that we will in no way relinquish that right.

As acting foreign minister today, like yesterday, he met from 1130 to 1240 with Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Enrique Ros. It is taken for granted that the central issue discussed was the conflict with Great Britain.

Although talking openly to newsmen, Saint Jean declined to comment on the repercussions the resignation of the British foreign secretary, Lord Carrington, had here and on a possible U.S. mediation.

On the former issue he noted that that was a domestic problem of the British Government. He said: We understand that could happen, but we are not going to analyze from the British Government's viewpoint the repercussions Lord Carrington's resignation could have had. As for the U.S. mediation he said he expected to receive that information from the United States.

He attributed the presence of the Soviet ambassador at San Martin Palace -- who had arrived there before him -- to negotiations aimed at the signing of a trade agreement and he considered as reasonable the Soviet abstention at the UN Security Council.

Expressing optimism, he said that Latin American solidarity, especially against colonialist positions, is irreversible and noted that this solidarity will be conveyed as usual. He added: We are in the 20th century and it is no longer possible for big countries to continue to have colonies.

Elaborating on the issue, he said he had had a brief telephone conversation with Foreign Minister Costa Mendez who had conveyed to him his optimism over the stage of negotiations which are underway now. He added: Furthermore, it was foreseeable that there would be negotiations after this action through which Argentina had recovered its territory. That is where we stand now and Costa Mendez expressed his optimism about it.

Commenting on the British decision to dispatch its fleet, he said: We trust that at this stage of civilization no one will consider resorting to an act of force to establish a colonialist system, which, as has been said earlier, Argentina will in no way permit.

He denied having met with the U.S. ambassador in his capacity as acting foreign minister. He said he had not met with the U.S. ambassador or with any other foreigner who, he said, are dealt with by Under Secretary Ros.

In response to a question, he spoke about what was being done to make the Malvinas people feel well treated and to improve their conditions of life which are not the best and which can in no way be compared to those enjoyed by Argentine citizens residing in the same latitude.

In this respect, he said Argentina has been supplying [the Malvinas] with fuel, food supplies, scholarships for students and medical services, thanks to an airlift established with the islands. He added that now with our presence on the islands we will make every possible improvement.

Saint Jean confirmed the receipt of expressions of support, some of which are unexpected and unusual. He said this support is conveyed through telephone calls to our embassies or personally. He said: Yesterday I was stopped on the street by youths who gave me letters in which they volunteer to enlist in the armed forces, which I consider unnecessary at this time.

He said that all kinds of personalities, a list of whom will be too long to enumerate, had conveyed their support and that most of these messages are kept at the Foreign Ministry. He said: We take it for granted that these solidarity positions will be ratified this afternoon, for instance, at the OAS.

He added: Among those expressions of support which are expected at the OAS is that of Brazil, which has still not clearly defined its position, as far as I know.

Finally, he said there was nothing to the possibility of his trip with former presidents of the nation. He said people from all political circles are interested in going on that trip. He added that he would not attend the installation of the Malvinas governor, who will be installed by the military authorities in charge of the operations.

Military Reinforcements

PY052150 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 5 Apr 82 pp 2, 3

[Excerpts] Puerto Rivero, Malvinas Islands -- In an atmosphere of widespread tension prevailing among the islanders, the Malvinas operations yesterday began to implement an accelerated plan of reinforcing arms and troops in the face of certainty that Great Britain could force Argentina into "an escalation of violence," military sources have said.

Similar activities took place yesterday in Comodoro Rivadavia -- the staging base city of the military operations -- where more air force transport units (Hercules C-130 and Boeing jet aircraft) arrived carrying more infantry and battalions.

Military sources have reported here that the need to send reinforcements had left some combat units of the forces virtually empty, the most conspicuous case being that of the Puerto Belgrano naval base, where a major part of the navy fleet is stationed.

They also noted that both in Comodoro Rivadavia and Ushuaia the military authorities have ordered large red crosses painted on the roofs of buildings -- public hospitals and private hospitals.

Kelpers (the native islanders) and British residents have not concealed their irritation at the Argentine presence and their mounting fear in the face of the possibility that future British and Argentine military operations would affect both their personal security and their assets.

Although no punishments have been imposed by the military authorities, several families have decided to momentarily leave their houses and move into the houses of neighbors.

This action took place especially among those residing in the vicinity of the airport (which is now a restricted zone); of the port, where the Argentine warships like the "Cabo San Antonio" are anchored; of the old barracks of the British Royal Marines, which is now occupied by the 25th infantry Brigade -- which is normally stationed in Santa Cruz.

Officers of the Malvinas operations command who last Saturday met with the group of journalists authorized to visit the islands have said that no acts of indiscipline had taken place among the people despite "their unfriendly, uncooperative attitude and inclination to engage in arguments."

A navy officer said that although there is no curfew, "a discreet control" has been established" on the consumption of alcoholic beverages such as beer and whiskey to prevent alcohol from inciting the people into aggressive acts.

Officers and troops alike are lodged in restricted areas (bivuacs and barracks) and they have refrained from utilizing the property of the islanders. The residence of the governor remains closed and the town hall (municipal building) is being occupied by the operations command.

FRG May Suspend Ship Delivery

PY051933 Paris AFP in Spanish 1632 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Bonn, 5 Apr (AFP) -- Durt Baecker, spokesman for the FRG Government, stated today that the FRG Government might suspend the delivery of submarines and warships to Argentina if the Buenos Aires government does not put an end to its invasion of the Malvinas Islands. During a press conference Baecker stated that according to the law on the control of arms exports, the FRG will establish a deadline for Argentina to end its occupation of the Malvinas Islands. However, no immediate delivery of submarines or warships to Argentina is scheduled.

Canada To Recall Ambassador

PY060003 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2356 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Apr (NA) -- Reliable sources indicated tonight that Canada will withdraw its Ambassador to Argentina Dwight Fulford to demonstrate its displeasures for the situation in the Malvinas Islands. This report, released though unofficial channels, was learned of after a lengthy meeting the Canadian ambassador held with Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Enrique Ros.

Fulford talked this afternoon with Ros for 1 hour at San Martin Palace.

Chilean Ambassador Comments

PY051531 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1404 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Apr (NA) -- Chilean Ambassador Sergio Jarpa Reyes asserted that his country's position of supporting Argentina in the conflict with Great Britain "is in keeping with established principles and not an opportunist policy" and reiterates his request "that a solution be found through peaceful means and according to the law."

The ambassador made these statements to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS press agency during a ceremony to celebrate another anniversary of the Maipu battle at San Martin Plaza this morning.

He recalled that "when the Malvinas issue was discussed in international organizations, Chile voiced its support for the Argentine position and the agreements reached on those occasions calling for the initiation of negotiations.

Regarding the latest events, he stated that the Chilean Foreign Ministry "has issued a declaration voicing its concern over the events and has urged the finding of a solution through peaceful means according to the law."

He maintained that "We are aware -- and this is a personal opinion but I am sure that it conveys the opinion of all the Chileans -- of the importance of the problem and hope it will be solved through negotiations and that Argentina will be able to firmly establish its sovereignty in the zone."

When he was asked whether there could be a meeting between President Leopoldo Galtieri and Augusto Pinochet he stated: "I couldn't tell you."

Soviet Envoy Meets Official

PY051709 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1541 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Apr (TELAM) -- Foreign Relations Under Secretary Enrique Ros and Soviet Ambassador to Argentina Sergey Striganov met for over half an hour at the Foreign Ministry this morning.

The ambassador stated that he is following the developments closely and is informing his country about the Argentine-British conflict. Striganov seemed very cautious in his statements and pointed out that we must hope for the best. He pointed out that his country refrained from voting for the British proposal at the UN Security Council because it was contrary to Argentine interests.

Situation Normal

PY060509 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0415 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Military Junta Communique No 16]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Apr (TELAM) -- The military junta hereby informs the people that, according to information supplied by Brig Gen Mario Benjamin Menendez, the situation on the Malvinas Islands is normal and public services are being provided without problems by those workers who are responsible for these services, who are thus remaining in their jobs.

During a tour of farms and outposts in the interior of the island, the troops were received crodially and with good disposition by the Malvinas people. Teachers and doctors have stated that they will stay in their posts.

Operation Cost $500 Million

PY060016 Paris AFP in Spanish 1915 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Apr (AFP) -- According to the newspaper AMBITO FINANCIERO of this capital, the operation to recover the Malvinas Islands could cost $500 million to Argentina. And this, the newspaper added, providing things remain as they are and the 1,800 inhabitants of the islands do not demand an indemnization to abandon the islands.

This cost will increase the predicted budget deficit in relations to the Gross National Product from 2 to 2.5 percent in 1982. The budget deficit last year reached 6 percent, but the severe economic measures adopted in the beginning of the year by Economy Minister Roberto Alemann should officially allow a reduction of that deficit.

Argentina has been experiencing for the past 18 months a serious economic crisis, with a sizable recession. The GNP dropped 6.1 percent in 1981; inflation was 131 percent last year and unemployment has reached 15 percent, according to the labor unions.

The overall foreign debt amounts to approximately $35 billion, while the reserves, which were $11 billion in the beginning of 1980, have dropped to $4 billion.

According to the experts, the economic recovery process undertaken by Alemann, could be seriously affected if Argentina must invest considerable amounts in the defense of the Malvinas Islands, including in developing them.

Financial Steps Taken

PY052104 Buenos Aires TELAM in English 1900 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Apr (TELAM) -- The Argentine Economy Ministry put into effect today measures to safeguard the peso and the economy in general, following Britain's action freezing all Argentine assets in the United Kingdom.

In the face of a sudden demand for foreign currencies, especially dollars, the Central Bank has restricted exchange houses. They may sell foreign currencies only for the satisfaction of debts in those currencies, and with only two days advance before the due dates.

Economy Minister Roberto Alemann exhorted farm producers to bear in mind the special conditions in which we are living for the moment and sell their crops at normal times, not (repeat: not) holding them off the market for speculative purposes.

Reacting to the British freeze order, Argentine authorities suspended, as a precautionary and transitory measure, all operations in Argentine and other currencies that would constitute transfers for accounts held in this country by individuals or organizations resident or domiciled in the United Kingdom.

The independent economic daily CRONISTA COMERCIAL of Buenos Aires observed this morning that this reciprocal freeze would [be] clearly because British investments in this country are still quite substantial, but because it appears that the economic authorities here managed to effect considerable withdrawals before the UK's freeze order took effect.

As for the effect of the stalling of economic exchange between the two countries, in case it should be a long drawn out affair, the paper noted that last year the bilateral trade balance was favorable to Britain by some $140 million. The UK exported $343 million worth of goods to Argentina while purchasing here only 203 million dollars worth.

CABINET MINISTERS RESIGN, NEW CABINET APPOINTED

PA052205 Paris AFP in Spanish 2153 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] La Paz, 5 Apr (AFP) -- All the ministers in the cabinet of Bolivian President Gen Celso Torrelio Villa have just resigned. It is expected that, in the next few hours, the new ministers will assume their posts.

New Cabinet List

PY050308 La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 0155 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Reading of Presidential Decree No 18,917 by the Minister Secretary General of the Presidency Juan Carlos Duran Saucedo at ceremony in central hall of government palace in La Paz -- live]

[Text] Presidential Decree No 18,917:

Maj Gen Celso Torrelio Villa, president of the republic, whereas, in view of the resignation submitted by the ministers of state it is necessary to appoint a new cabinet of ministers and that it is the exclusive task of the president of the republic according to the Article No 99 of the Constitution to designate his coworkers,

Decrees:

Article 1. The following citizens are appointed ministers of state for the respective ministries:

Minister of foreign affairs and worship: Dr Gonzalo Romero Alvarez Garcia; minister of interior, migration and justice: Col Romulo Mercado Garnica; minister of national defense: Maj Gen Jorge Echazu Aguirre; minister of aeronautics: Maj Gen Natalio Morales Mosquera; minister of finance: Lic Lucio Paz Rivero; minister of planning and coordination: Eng Adolfo Linares Arraya; minster of education and culture: Lt Col Juan Vera Antezana; minister of transport and communications: Capt Gildo Angulo (Cabrera); minister of industry, commerce and tourism: Eng Luis Palenque Cordero; minister of labor and labor development: Col Guido Suarez Castellon; minister of mines and metallurgy: Col Carlos Morales Nunez del Prado; minister of campesino affairs and agriculture: Col Carlos Villarroel; minister of energy and hydrocarbons: Eng William MacKenny Velasco; minister of social security and public health: Dr Arnold Hoffman Ban Soleto; minister of urban development and housing: architect Raul Ottermin Rodriguez; minister secretary general of the presidency: Dr Juan Carlos Duran Saucedo; minister secretary general of integration: Dr Edgar Millares Reyes; minister of information: Mario Maranon Zarate.

Article 2. The appointed ministers of state will take up their posts today.

Given at government palace in La Paz on 5 April 1982.

[Signed] Maj Gen Celso Torrelio Villa, president of the republic.

TORRELIO SPEAKS AT CABINET SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

PY060540 La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Speech by Bolivian President Celso Torrelio Villa at La Paz government palace on the occasion of swearing in new cabinet ministers -- live]

[Text] Messrs Generals and Chiefs of Staff of the High Command of the Armed Forces of the Nation; Unit Commanders; Unit Chiefs of Staff; Ministers of State; Mr Comptroller General of the Republic; Messrs Generals, Admirals and Officers of the Armed Forces and the Bolivian Police; ladies and gentlemen:

Messrs ministers: the cabinet of ministers which has accompanied me until today has fulfilled the arduous and difficult task of drawing up and promulgating the economic measures most advisable and realistic for achieving our economic and financial recovery. The armed forces government is aware that those measures are hard, because of the exceptional situation which became more serious in the last 24 months, and that they affect all the social sectors of our population. They were, nevertheless, applied, because there was no other alternative for the country. The palliatives with which it was attempted to disguise the endemic disease of spending more than we had were no longer workable. Our historic responsibility as rulers and military men consisted in seeking for the fatherland an effective, durable remedy, painful at the beginning, but necessary for the future prosperity of the Bolivian people.

The cabinet which has been sworn in a few minutes ago will also have before it the difficult task of continuing and implementing the economic pattern that has been adopted and of promoting with all available means and with the cooperation of all the Bolivian people the revival of our economy, permitting us better levels of economic and social development. This is the main and most important mandate from the Bolivian people who endure, and will stoically endure with unequalled maturity, the restrictions of all kinds imposed by our current economic situation.

The economic crisis has not been caused only by exaggerated expenditures and poor administration of the resources available to the state. It is also, and perhaps more truly, the result of our acute structural problems and the lack of a clear definition of the concepts of economic policy, because Bolivia is not eminently a producer country; on the contrary, we are a consumer country. We must set the goal of increasing production, at least to cover our own consumption. It is therefore imperative for the new cabinet to direct all its efforts to finding those definitions and to achieving the change or the remodeling of our economic and productive structures.

At the same time, we must make concrete efforts and use all our possibilities and those we may obtain from abroad by way of investments and a prompt implementation of the programs to accelerate as much as possible the growth of the economic sectors which have been pointed out as priority sectors in the government's 3-year plan. In a coordinated and concerted action the state and the private sector should direct their investments toward creating sources of work which will reduce the alarming unemployment and underemployment figures.

Our greater or lesser economic and social development will wholly depend on the results we obtain as a country from the programs of increasing our exports and of a greater and more diversified self-sufficiency in primary and secondary goods. Within its possibilities, the state should channel large investments toward the agroindustry and toward the basic services of infrastructure in order to improve such important branches as education, health and sanitation. The projects that will be drawn up in these and other fields must necessarily be in accordance with our realities, and luxuries and overdimensioning must be avoided at all costs, giving priority to the creation of production units which in a short time will give the best results for national development.

We are a poor country, a simple country. Let us act and think as we are and we will achieve all the sooner what we all want to be: a country which is the master of its own future.

This cabinet, Messrs Ministers, by mandate of the armed forces of the nation has also another important task to fulfill: with the cooperation of the national political and social council it should implement a constructive dialogue with all the social, economic and political forces of the country.

The dialogue should be aimed at seeking the alternatives and best solutions of the problems of the nation, particularly in politics, within the framwork of the government's 3-year plan, established by the armed forces of the nation.

The main concern of the government in the political sphere will be that of restructuring, in an atmosphere of national consensus, all our political bases so that by common agreement we will achieve the bases guaranteeing for us a state of full rights within the time set in the 3-year plan which is guiding the steps of this government.

Being a people with its own spirit, with a heritage and traditions which are extraordinarily rich coming from times far before the Incas, Bolivia has a right and it is our duty to find a way of life that is in accordance with its character. Democracy is the instrument to reach the objectives of progress and strengthening which are the aspirations of the whole nation, aspirations which are well known to the armed forces. The patterns which we have tried in the recent past and our fathers and grandfathers before us are obviously unsuitable for those aims. This is why it is necessary to create new structures which are in accordance not only with our realities but also with the era in which we live.

All the government with the constant cooperation of the Bolivian people and the armed forces of the nation will continue the energetic moralization campaign, because we are certain that we are a worthy nation that has a right to a promising future, and it will strengthen the struggle against the shameful drug trafficking which has done so much damage to the country.

My deep recognition, and that of the armed forces of the nation, to the civilian and military ministers who have accompanied me during the past 7 months. They have acted not only with integrity and fortitude, but they have also shown a high sense of patriotism in the hard task of finding the best alternatives to prevent the [words indistinct] the fatherland.

Messrs ministers; I trust that, acting with patriotism, steadiness and will, you will fulfill the hard task aimed at the good of the whole nation.

Long live the Bolivian people, with confidence and Christian faith in its future! May God with his light and clarity guide our acts of government. Thank you. [applause]

COUNTRY SUPPORTS ARGENTINE RIGHTS OVER MALVINAS

PY030135 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0048 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] La Paz, 2 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- Bolivia has expressed its support for Argentina's historical rights over the territories under its sovereignty. However, Bolivia asserted that international disputes should be settled peacefully.

The Bolivian Foreign Ministry tonight issued a communique referring to the British-Argentine dispute over the Malvinas Islands at the southern end of the continent.

The communique states that Bolivia maintains its traditional support for the principle that international disputes should be settled by peaceful means, adding that Bolivia reiterates its traditional support for Argentina's historic rights over the territories over which it exercised legitimate sovereignty.

The communique states that Bolivia expresses its sincere wishes for the prompt and just settlement of this problem in keeping with the law and with the principles observed by the international community.

UN, OAS DELEGATES INSTRUCTED ON MALVINAS ISSUE

PY051419 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1250 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Brasilia, 5 Apr (TELAM) -- The Brazilian delegation before the United Nations will advocate a peaceful solution to the conflict between Argentina and Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands should an eventual debate or vote on the problem take place.

This information was disclosed here today by sources of the Brazilian Foreign Ministry which stated that Carlos Buenos, acting head of the Brazilian delegation before the United Nations, had been given those instructions by Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro in New York on Friday. Saraiva Guerreiro made a stopover in New York on his return from an official visit to the PRC and Japan.

According to spokesman of Itamaraty (Brazilian Foreign Ministry), in addition to supporting the use of peaceful means, Carlos Buenos will explain that Brazil supports Argentina's right to legal claim of its sovereignty over the island but will condemn the use of force by any of the parties involved in that conflict.

Saraiva Guerreiro has also ordered that those same instructions be given to Alarico Silveira, Brazilian representative before the OAS in view of the possibility of Argentina requesting the intervention of the aforementioned organization.

On the other hand, diplomatic analysts in that capital believe that, in the case of an eventual armed action by Great Britain, Argentina will have the legal grounds to resort to the principle of continental solidarity provided for in the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR), signed in Rio de Janeiro in 1947.

UK SHIPS COULD PROVISION IN BRAZILIAN PORTS

PY052256 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2229 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Brasilia, 5 Apr (TELAM) -- The Brazilian aeronautics minister, Brig Gen Delio Jardin de Mattos, said today that since no state of war exists, Brazil cannot prevent British ships which are going toward the Malvinas from provisioning in Brazilian ports.

Brig Gen de Mattos recalled however, that for strategic reasons, the ports most suitable for provisioning are those of South Africa. The aeronautics minister noted that he hoped that the problem would be resolved in a peaceful manner, but he warned Brazil not to feed the war of others.

FRG PRESIDENT CARSTENS ARRIVES FOR VISIT

PY052331 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Excerpt] FRG President Karl Carstens arrived in Brasilia at 1430 today. He was welcomed by President Joao Baptista de Figueiredo at the air base. After the appropriate greetings, the national anthems of Brazil and of the FRG were played, and Carstens reviewed the troops assembled in his honor.

The FRG president will spend 2 days in Brasilia, and on 7 April will go to Sao Paulo. Present at the air base to welcome him were Vice President Aureliano Chaves and several ministers of state.

Presidents Discuss Malvinas

PY051220 Paris AFP in Spanish 1048 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Brasilia, 5 Apr (AFP) -- The Argentine-British conflict over the Malvinas islands will be a topic of conversation here today between FRG President Karl Carstens who is visiting Brazil and Gen Joao Baptista Figueiredo, sources close to the FRG delegation indicated.

Brazil which always supported the Argentine claim over the Malvinas is opposed to the use of force to solve the problem.

Brazilian Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro voiced last week his conviction that the conflict between the two countries could still be solved peacefully and that a war in the south Atlantic was unthinkable.

The rising tensions in the south Atlantic area which is vital to Brazilian interests will be treated along with other currents problems of international politics, such as the tension in Central America, the North-South dialogue, the Middle East situation and disarmament.

Genscher on Falklands

LD052120 Hamburg DPA in German 2028 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Brasilia, 5 Apr (DPA) -- Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher immediately on his arrival in Brasilia has met with his Brazilian counterpart, Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, for an unscheduled discussion which centered on the Falkland conflict. According to information from government circles Genscher handed over in Brasilia a note from London to the effect that Great Britain desires to be briefed directly via the situation. It was further reported that Genscher and Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, who has since resigned, talked to each other by telephone today. Genscher arrived in Brazil with Federal President Karl Carstens on Sunday evening. Carstens continues his state visit until Saturday morning.

FIGUEIREDO ALLUDES TO MALVINAS ISSUE AT BANQUET

PY060334 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2320 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Brasilia, 5 Apr (TELAM) -- President Joao Figueiredo has delivered a speech that diplomatic circles have interpreted as a statement concerning the issue existing between Argentina and Great Britain. The Brazilian president said: "We defend the fundamental principles of equality of nations, of their territorial integrity and of their dignity."

Figueiredo delivered the speech at the banquet he hosted tonight nonoring FRG President Karl Carstens, who today started a 6-day visit to Brazil.

Figueiredo made no reference to the Malvinas Islands dispute, but he referred to the "straining of the international situation," adding that "the state of affairs is worrisome but there is no reason to yield to exasperation or to engage in a confrontation."

He added: "We believe in the solidarity of free nations and in the convergence of their genuine interests. We defend the fundamental principles of equality of nations, of their territorial integrity and of their dignity."

In his reply, Karls Carsten did not mention the Argentine-British confrontation either. He said: "The preservation of peace is the main common task of all nations and it is also the supreme task of the FRG."

MALVINAS INVASION SHOULD BE WARNING TO CHILEANS

PY052015 Paris AFP in Spanish 1655 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 5 Apr (AFP) -- The daily LA TERCERA DE LA HORA comments today that the world is "astonished" by the Argentine decision to "take justice into its own hands" by occupying the Malvinas Islands. Commentator Oscar Pinochet de la Barra, former foreign relations under secretary, stated that "the world is astonished by the incredible decision of the Argentine authorities to take justice into their own hands regarding the case of the Falkland, or Malvinas Islands." The commentator points out that "this gesture is age-old since the international community, by this second millenium of the Christian era, has made great progress regarding peaceful solutions to conflicts."

The commentator points out that the British occupation of the Malvinas in the last century was "bad in the eyes of the international community" but that "the Argentine procedure is abominable." He goes on to point out that Chile, which maintains a century-old dispute with Argentina over the southern border area and currently submitted for the pope's mediation, should "take note of what has happened." He maintains that on more than one occasion Argentina has tried to occupy three small islands granted to Chile through arbitration decision in 1877 which is not acknowledged by Argentina. The commentary adds that "we cannot continue harboring any illusions about the seriousness with which our adversaries have been handling the papal mediation. Since their rejection of the papal diplomatic proposal, they have tried to win time and stop us from taking the case to the International Court of Justice, to which we must urgently submit our case, since it is the highest court to which we can resort if we are to achieve a peaceful solution."

In 1972 Chile and Argentina signed a treaty on the peaceful solution of controversies which recognizes the competence of the International Court to solve disputes. Argentina denounced the treaty, which expires on 27 December 1982, but the Chilean Government "reserves the right" to request the intervention of the court.

PROTEST AT BURNING OF FLAG IN BUENOS AIRES

PY011826 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] Chile has lodged a strong protest with the Buenos Aires government over the burning of a Chilean flag in the Argentine capital. The announcement was made a few minutes ago by Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames. In reply to a question, he said:

[Begin recording] Well, Chile acted immediately. Our ambassador has lodged a formal protest with the Argentine Government [words indistinct] repudiating those acts, denouncing them, demanding that the culprits be punished. This was a shameful, painful act which brings dishonor on those who perpetrated it against the Chilean national banner. What is worse, it was committed in the presence of policemen, who stood idly by watching Chilean national dignity being tarnished. [end recording] He added that Chile will always react energetically to defend its national symbols and sovereignty. He expressed hope that no Chilean youth will participate in such a degrading act as that of burning the flag of another nation.

NAVY TO COMMISSION FORMER BRITISH DESTROYER

PY060153 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0051 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] At a ceremony tomorrow at the port of Talcahuano, the Chilean Navy will receive the recently bought British missile destroyer Norfolk. The ship will be renamed the Capitan Prat. The Tidepool, also bought from Great Britain, is now in Arica.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SUPPORTS ARGENTINE INVASION

PA041908 Paris AFP in Spanish 1735 GMT 4 Apr 82

[Text] Caracas, 4 Apr (AFP) -- Venezuela expressed support today for Argentina's claims to the Malvinas and criticized the decision of the UN Security Council demanding the withdrawal of Argentine troops from the archipelago. The Venezuelan Foreign Ministry, which issued a noncommittal communique on Friday, today expressed "its solidarity with the just demands made by the sister Argentine republic, which has seen its sovereign territory undermined by colonialist arrogance."

The document notes that the Security Council resolution, condemning the recent Argentine actions without making any reference to those of Great Britain, "is overlooking the main cause of the problem, the territorial usurpation consummated by the occupying colonial power." Great Britain "cannot allege anything on its behalf other than usurpation and force, in the face of the just aspirations of the Argentine nation," the text read.

At the same time, Venezuela "considers that it is necessary to resort to peaceful means to prevent a heightening of the tensions and conflicts in the continent. This is to ensure "that Latin America will not be used as a camp for intervention [words indistinct] the powers of one or another bloc."

Peace in the region is not only a necessity but "a vital condition for solution by the parties of their territorial differences," it added. The document recalls that Venezuela has also been the victim of territorial usurpations by colonial powers, alluding specifically to Great Britain. Venezuela has laid claim to 159,000 sq km of Guyana, a former British colony, and an agreement signed by the three parties involved demands negotiations for a "practical" settlement of the controversy beginning in June of this year.

LEMOS SIMMONDS PRAISES SALVADORAN ELECTIONS

PA011640 Paris AFP in Spanish 2339 GMT 31 Mar 82

[Text] Bogota, 31 Mar (AFP) -- Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds today praised the courage shown by the Salvadoran people, who massively went to the polls last Sunday despite guerrilla threats and attacks. In a message today to his Salvadoran counterpart, Fidel Chavez Mena, Lemos stressed that Salvadorans demonstrated that they prefer the use of legal, not violent, means to solve the problems of that Central American nation.

Colombia sent four special observers to the elections. The observers informed the Foreign Ministry that the elections were held in an orderly and democratic manner, without any impositions.

COSTA RICA'S MONGE CITES CURRENT REGIONAL ISSUES

PA040314 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0209 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] Caracas, 2 Apr (EFE) -- Costa Rican President-elect Luis Alberto Monge today expressed great hopes for Venezuela's economic support to ease the grave economic crisis in his country.

At a news conference held this afternoon, he said, "We brought specific proposals on the oil agreement, Costa Rica's debts to Venezuela, the intensification of trade and Costa Rican production plans to market goods in Venezuela."

These proposals were discussed with Venezuelan ministers, and technicians and with private enterprise and "they were well received," said Monge. "We cannot make agreements. Neither can I give specific details because we are not yet in office," he said. On Argentina's invasion of the Malvinas Islands, whose sovereignty is disputed with Great Britain, Monge said that "sentimentally we feel solidarity with any Latin American country which claims legitimate territories." However, we are worried that a center of tension will emerge in the south, just as we have one in Central America and the Caribbean, and we hope that the good offices of the international organizations and the influential sister nations will decrease the tension."

Luis Alberto Monge expressed reservations on the Central American Democratic Community, of which Costa Rica, Honduras and El Salvador are members. "Our reservations refer to certain bureaucratic mechanisms because the principles of defense of democracy on which the community is based are ours," he explained. Among his reservations is "that Costa Rica could find itself involved in a military conflict which could weaken the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, the very treaty which defended us in the 1948 and 1955 invasions." In addition, "It appears that a minimarket is being created and, although we concede that the Central American common market is not functioning, we believe it is not lost and we will try to rescue it."

Monge expressed surprise and concern over the remarks which international news agencies attribute to Col Gustavo Alvarez, chief of the Honduran armed forces. Alvarez apparently said that "Honduras is facing armed aggression from the Soviet Union through Cuba, and if there is no other possibility to preserve peace, Honduras is in favor of U.S. military intervention in Central America." Monge said that he learned of the remarks from the press, but that this would be "very serious." He rejected any invitation to the United States or any other power to intervene.

On the Salvadoran situation, he said that the elections were held under very difficult conditions, that "the large voter turnout is a rejection of violence." He added that he advocates negotiations for a national coalition government to end the bloodshed. He added, "We cannot assume any position which could be interpreted as supporting the guerrillas because we believe that they have the support of Marxism-Leninism." On relations with Nicaragua, he said: "We have a long border with Nicaragua and we desire peace with that country. Therefore, we will maintain normal relations as long as Nicaragua respects our right for self-determination and does not meddle in our internal affairs." Monge added that his country has good relations with the United States, that there "are no anti-U.S. feelings" in his people. He expressed gratitude for the presence of Venezuelan business and labor delegations at his presidential inauguration on 8 May 1982. He was also grateful for President Luis Herrera Campins' acceptance of the invitation to attend the ceremonies "as an expression of support for our people's determination to defend democracy and face the problems with the system."

Views Salvadoran Elections

PA011256 Paris AFP in Spanish 2358 GMT 31 Mar 82

[Text] Caracas, 31 Mar (AFP) -- Luis Alberto Monge, the Social Democratic president-elect of Costa Rica, said here today that in past Salvadoran elections, the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] had been the most homogeneous group and the one most representative of the Salvadoran peoples' desire for p ce. Monge is visiting Venezuela at the invitation of Christian Democratic President Luis Herrera Campins, who is Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte's main supporter. Monge emphasized that in these past elections "the Salvadoran people showed courage and fearlessness, though maybe not all the necessary wisdom when casting their votes."

Monge was undoubtedly referring to the majority of votes won by the five rightwing parties of El Salvador, which could dislodge Duarte and the PDC from power. As he discussed voting returns, Monge said that one must be human and understand them within the framework of the trauma being suffered by the Salvadoran people. At the same time, Monge underlined that the elections meant that the Salvadorans definitely showed they do not want war and that they wish to find a peaceful path to progress.

MEXICO SELECTED AS SITE FOR U.S.-NICARAGUA TALKS

FL051339 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1206 GMT 4 Apr 82

[By Antonio Aspiros]

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 4 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Nicaragua and the United States have chosen Mexico as the neutral territory for a meeting this month to seek a solution to their political differences. Even though the exact date and agenda have not been announced, it is almost certain that the talks will be held in response to the peace plan proposed by President Jose Lopez Portillo in Managua, providing a means for direct negotiations between the two conflicting governments.

To a degree this meeting is also the product of the Nicaraguan denunciation at the UN Security Council of an invasion of its territory by forces formed by Somoza followers and "counterrevolutionaries" trained in Honduras and the United States.

LOPEZ PORTILLO BACKS HONDURAN PEACE PROPOSAL

PA041850 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0516 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Apr (EFE) -- Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo met here today with Honduran Foreign Affairs Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica and stated his sympathy and support for the Honduran plan for peace in Central America. Speaking to the media after the 30-minute meeting, Paz Barnica told newsmen Lopez Portillo had told him that the initiative "deserves full support." The Honduran official said that the peace proposal made by Lopez Portillo in February in Managua and the Honduran proposal have "similar and concurring points because both plans have a common denominator, and this is what is important: the search for peace in Central America."

Paz Barnica arrived in Mexico City last Wednesday for a private visit that concluded today. He noted that both peace proposals are aimed at preventing difficult situations "that could have terrible results." The Honduran official expanded on this subject, noting that there are still ways, good will and the political decisions of regional governments and friendly governments to reach lasting solutions.

On 23 March the Honduran plan was presented by Paz Barnica to the Permanent Council of the OAS in the United States. Paz Barnica said Honduras will not lend itself to an intervention in Nicaragua. "Honduras will not permit or tolerate the use of its territory as base for destabilization actions. Honduras will strictly maintain the principle of nonintervention and an attitude of neutrality toward the internal or external conflicts of other states," he said.

The Honduran foreign affairs secretary also said there are 30,000-35,000 refugees in his country. Most of these are Salvadorans. Paz Barnica said the government of President Roberto Suazo Cordova, with help from international organizations such as the UN High Commission for Refugees, is giving them all sorts of aid. In this regard, Paz Barnica said his country "is facing the problem in a very humanitarian way."

Paz Barnica said it would be proper to have a meeting with Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto "to analyze frankly and extensively" the problems that have emerged lately along the border between the two nations. In this regard, Paz Barnica said his country does not want any confrontation and said the Hondurans believe in dialogue and in the search for peace. The Honduran official admitted that there is in Central America a traffic of arms that go to "different sectors, to sectors struggling against established regimes and to sectors or groups trying to destabilize democratic governments."

Paz Barnica denied that the United States will establish military bases in his country, as was reported in the area recently. He said: "I want to tell you clearly that this is untrue, that it is false." The Honduran official denied that there is a military understanding between the Honduran and the Guatemalan armed forces to fight subversion. Paz Barnica concluded by saying that his government is concerned over "the excessive arms buildup of Nicaragua."

Peace Efforts Praised

FL051417 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2330 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 3 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- The Honduran foreign secretary noted the importance of recognizing the efforts of Mexico and Honduras in the search for peace in Central America, and reiterated his country's support for the proposal made by Lopez Portillo in Managua. "We do not want confrontations but dialogue," he asserted, and stated that his country will never do anything contrary to its people's interests, contrary to the principles of national sovereignty and contrary to the proposals he made before the international community.

PEMEX RECEIVES LINE OF CREDIT FROM FOREIGN BANKS

FL030209 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2245 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Petroleum (PEMEX) has announced that it has obtained a line of credit amounting to 2 billion dollars from an international group formed by 132 banks to be used in its program of investments and to renegotiate its short-term debt. The loan was signed today in New York by PEMEX General Director Julio Rodolfo Moctezuma Cid and Walter B. Weiston, president of Citicorp and Citibank, the institutions which acted as general coordinator and agent, respectively. The coordinator for Latin America was Mexico's national bank, for Europe Credit Lyonnais, for the Far East Japan's industrial bank and for the United States Manufacturers Hanover Trust.

The credit is for 4 years with an option to be extended for the same period and to be repaid in 6-month installments. The interest will be seven-eighs of the rate fixed by the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIOR) or three-fourths of the rate fixed by the preferential Citibank.

CUBAN CULTURE MINISTER HART ARRIVES FOR TALKS

FL052239 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2130 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 5 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Cuban Culture Minister Armando Hart Davalos arrived in Mexico today to exchange views on cultural policy with Mexican education officials. Interviewed at Mexico City airport, Hart said cultural relations between Mexico and Cuba are excellent and that the Cuban Government intends to improve them further. He said views would be exchanged on UNESCO's international cultural policy congress to be held in this city in July.

ROYO SUPPORTS ARGENTINA ON MALVINAS ISSUE

PA031454 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] President Aristides Royo has reiterated Panama's support to the Argentine Government and people regarding the matter of the Malvinas Islands because, as he said, these islands are historically, geographically and legally part of that nation.

The support was reiterated this afternoon when President Royo called Silvio Neumann, Argentine ambassador to Panama, asking him to report to President Leopoldo Galtieri that Panama reiterates its support to Argentina because it believes that the Malvinas Islands are part of Argentina. The Panamanian head of state said he hopes the issue will be resolved through negotiations and dialogue and without a need to resort to force, but in the understanding that the Malvinas Islands belong to Argentina.

Royo said that Panama has not forgotten the unqualified support it has received from the Argentine Government and people regarding recovery of the Panama Canal. He added that, should the came come up at the UN Security Council, Panama will endeavor to achieve a peaceful solution of this problem. Panama shares as its own the happiness the Argentine people are experiencing today, he said.

UN Resolution Proposal

PY032058 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2033 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] United Nations, 3 Apr (TELAM) -- Panama presented today to the Security Council which is discussing the Malvinas situation a resolution completely opposed in spirit to the one presented yesterday by the United Kingdom. The proposal was presented by Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Illueca at the closing of a long speech firmly supporting Argentina's position.

The resolution proposed says that in view of the United Kingdom's intention that affronts Argentine territorial integrity and endangers peace, Panama calls upon the United Kingdom to stop any hostile attitude implied in the threat to use force or in the use of force, and cooperate in the decolonization of the territory in dispute. Another point of the proposal calls upon the two nations to negotiate a peaceful solution to the conflict.

Before the Panamanian foreign minister's speech, representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Jordan, Japan, the United States, Bolivia and Peru made speeches. Argentina's claim over the Malvinas is wholly supported by Brazil, Bolivia, Peru and Panama. Jordan, Japan and the United States expressed their opposition to the Argentine action. Today's session began at noon (local time) and the Panamanian resolution was presented shortly before 1400.

Declaration of Solidarity

PA042234 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 4 Apr 82 pp A-1, A-14

[Text] Declaration of the Panamanian Government on the Malvinas Islands case issued by Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Illueca.

The government of the Republic of Panama recognizes the Republic of Argentina's sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands, which include the islands of South Georgia and South Sandwich, and reaffirms the support stated by President Aristides Royo for Argentina's claims during the 36th UN General Assembly meeting. The Panamanian Government shares the conclusions reached in 1976 by the inter-American legal committee, which stated that Argentina has sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands and that the only pending issue was the procedure that should be followed by England in returning those islands to Argentina.

The UN declaration on decolonization and statements made by the nonaligned heads of state ratify the broad international support and the solid legal and political basis of the Argentine claims. The Latin American countries, Panama among them, cannot remain indifferent to an anachronistic colonial situation that has no basis for existence in today's world, as it contradicts the territorial integrity and dignity of the Argentine nation. The Panamanian Government hopes that the British Government, in accordance with Resolution 2065 (20) of the UN General Assembly, will establish negotiations with the Argentine Government to find a peaceful solution of the Malvinas Islands situation.

The Panamanian Government's decision to give its solidarity with and full support to the recovery of Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands was made by the entire government, in consultation with the commander and the staff of the armed forces. [Signed] Jorge E. Illueca, foreign relations minister of the Republic of Panama.

OBSERVERS TO SALVADORAN ELECTIONS ISSUE REPORT

PA060125 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 4 Apr 82 p 6-A

[Statement by Panamanian legislators Roberto Ramos of Cocle Province and Nestor Gutierrez of Chiriqui Province, members of the National Legislative Council, on their visit to El Salvador as observers at the elections; date and location not given]

[Text] We stayed in the fraternal country of El Salvador from 26 March to 30 March 1982 in response to a courteous and generous Salvadoran invitation to witness the 28 March elections. We witnessed a true popular plebiscite, where the Salvadoran people went to the polls and expressed, freely and massively, their will to find a political, democratic, popular and peaceful solution to the violence they are experiencing.

Impartially, and without prejudice or fear of being mistaken, we were able to see that more than 1 million Salvadorans went to the voting places beginning early in the day to express their desires and feelings. We cannot say that there weren't any obstacles. There were some, such as threats by extremists. In some places, extremists kept their promise in intimidating the people. However, they could not stop the people's large, purposeful and determined movement to respond to the call of their authorities and their consciences.

We went to many places, thanks to the assistance of the Salvadoran Government. In most of these places we observed the desire, joy and hope with which young people, women, men, sick old people and so forth joined the lines and patiently, under a hot sun, awaited their opportunity to vote. We corroborated the gravity and honesty with which the central Elections Council, supported by the government and Salvadoran Armed Forces, conducted the elections.

We were eyewitnesses to the contempt that the Salvadoran people feel toward violence and subversion from any source, whether from the leftwing or the rightwing, and to their desire to achieve a peaceful solution that will allow El Salvador to find the paths of peace, liberty and justice. We want to note that we were invited by the Salvadoran Government as legislators of the Republic of Panama, and as free men who believe in solidarity and democracy. And we responded accordingly to the Government and people of El Salvador.

In conclusion, we want to express our profound appreciation for the signs of affection and solidarity that we recieved from that extraordinary people, who have given an example of civic concern and profound and great love of democracy to the world. After the Salvadoran experience, we urge all men, women and young people in the world to learn how to express their desires and feelings. The only way to do this is through free elections, because it has been proven that other methods are coercive and exclusive and could lead us to totalitarian regimes. Let's hope that our fraternal countries in Central America and the Caribbean, like Nicaragua and Cuba, show the world soon, as El Salvador has done, what kind of government their people want, through the voting process.

EL SALVADOR

PRESIDENT DUARTE HOLDS 1 APRIL NEWS CONFERENCE

PA020113 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 2019 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Press conference held by Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte in Presidential House in San Salvador on 1 April -- recorded]

[Text] [Duarte] Members of the national and international press: It is obvious that after an electoral event such as that just held in our country, the government is willing to meet with the press that has witnessed this process. We did not hold this meeting earlier because we were waiting for the Central Electoral Council [CCE] to complete its provisional or unofficial count and we did not want you to have any concerns about those things that involve not the government but the CCE. Now that you have the information on the figures and the data, it is not up to this government to reply to questions on those matters.

We are now going to open ourselves to relevant questions. On greeting you, I hope that you have been able to carry out your work during this electoral period. The government did everything possible so that you could fulfill your function as newsmen without risk.

On greeting you, I reiterate the government's hope and desire that you have been able to reinforce this event, which makes all Salvadoran people extremely proud, for there was a truly massive turnout, surpassing all estimates; even though there are still some who, through socialist news agencies, say that the streets were empty and that the people did not vote, while others say that the people obeyed the guerrillas' order to refrain from voting. I think that all of you know that these are lies, since you clearly know that the people went to vote freely. These are the first totally and absolutely free elections. Many of you have commented to me that you saw people walking many kilometers to vote. This is not achieved by pressure but by the will of the people. This is a message that the Salvadoran people have sent to the world. This is the message that you have been able to confirm. It is the message of a people who want peace and who do not want violence. They are a people who want liberty and who were willing to suffer hardships, the long wait in lines and difficulties of all kinds to be present at the hour of democratic definition. This is the message that the people have given. I will now ask the moderator to proceed to the process of questions and answers. Thank you very much.

[Question in English] Jack Smith of ABC News. [Words indistinct] plan to resign?

[Answer in English] In answering the question, I think that if the question is that I am going to do it, I can tell you that I came back to the country for a chance to work for democracy and to help my people solve the crisis that was imposed to [as heard] the people. This is only the first step in the line of democracy and my duty and responsibility for the people have not ended yet. We have a million tasks to comply [with]. We have many things to do. So you will see a lot of Napoleon Duarte in this process, whatever the results are.

[Question in English by same newsman] Will you continue as president?

[Answer in English] That will not depend on me. But I am here and it will depend on what the resolutions are in the country; if the people want me here as president, I will be here as president. If the people want me out, I will be out. And if the people want me [word indistinct] to sustain the reforms, to keep democracy running and help protect human rights, I will be doing it permanently.

[Indistinct question in English by (James Lemoin) of NEWSWEEK]

[Answer in English] Your question is a problematic question and the Christian Democrats will not accept any resolution that will mean the destruction of the hopes of justice for the people. We will continue fighting for structural changes. We will put everything we can in order to assure the campesino that the land is theirs for good and to keep and that they need overall to produce that land [as heard] for the betterment of the (?future) of the people of this country. Therefore, how this can be achieved is a matter that has to be presented not only to the other parties but to all the people and I can assure you that whatever the resolution is, we will not deceive the hopes and the will of the people.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer in English] I don't know. I don't know. I cannot answer a hypothetical question. How in the world can you expect the extreme right and extreme left together, sitting down at a desk? I would not give any speculation. How can the Democrats and the ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] sit down? I wouldn't speculate. So understand I cannot speculate on things that are not realistic. I will answer realistic questions because speculating at this moment would be worse.

[Moderator] Newsman (Rick Davis) of NBC News.

[Duarte in Spanish] I don't know if the ones who want information in Spanish can also obtain this type of information, since I think questions are only being asked in English and I don't think this is correct. Therefore, please also ask questions in Spanish.

[Moderator] If you can ask the question in Spanish, as the president has said, it would be beneficial for all the other Spanish-speaking colleagues. We would also like u to wait for the microphone to get near you, so that your question can be heard. You can ask your question, Mr (Davis).

[Question in English] Mr Duarte, the ARENA party has indicated that your economic reform has not worked in this country. If the ARENA Party does lead the coalition, doesn't that mean the end of the land reform and your economic reform?

[Answer in English] You are asking me a question in which you start from the expression of ARENA. I think you should ask them. But in my opinion, the reforms have been good for the country. In my opinion, I think they have been a success. If you compare the production of the reform area against the production of the nonreform area, you will see the difference. The reform area has incremented [as heard] doubly in everything -- all the production -- and, on the contrary, the land owned by the private sector has diminished its production. And in consequence, you will recollect that private enterprise, because of the problems of violence, cannot go to the farms to produce, but the campesino is there producing. So the agrarian reform has the campesino on the land, working. On the other hand, the people from private enterprise are in the city, waiting to have better conditions to go to the farms. This has produced a distortion in production, so you cannot come to the conclusion that the reforms are bad for the country. So, if that is so, then one thing is sure -- the party's and my position is that we will keep struggling for the reform. We will not let this go into the gutter. That would damage the country.

[Question in English by same newsman] Does this mean the land reform should be turned back or stopped?

[Answer in English] Oh. I am sorry to say that that's going to be terrible. This country can go into an incredible situation, a crisis, and everybody knows it. So this is, this is, just to think of it, its terrific [as heard]. I just can't imagine how anybody could think of sending back this process. If they do, history will have the answer.

[Question by Julio Lopez from Channel 17 in Chile] Mr President, do you believe that your party doesn't have a coalition, and that it won't have political representation in El Salvador's future? Is it possible that some members of your party will join the guerrillas?

[Answer] I fear that the people might feel frustration when they realize the dominance and the system of violence that the right is trying to impose on the country. There are some symptoms of unrest already. We should try to channel those symptoms. That is why I think that it is a great mistake for the extreme right to try to impose the declaration on the political parties that was published in the newspapers. And I think that local newspapers are damaging the country greatly with the kind of information that they insinuate. They are creating uncertainty in all sectors, not only in the PDC. We have been told that some other parties feel upset because they are being pushed into a situation that might lead the country to a crisis. I am very fearful that those who are acting this way have not understood the depth of the message given by the Salvadoran people during the elections. If they have not understood, and they continue with their highhandedness and their lack of commonsense, the results might be very sad. Some people have even hinted that these elections have helped the left, because the right has accomplished the task of eliminating the only force capable of holding back the avalanche, and that this will allow the left to recover their ground and to stage a process of possible revolutionary actions.

I believe that we should all understand this, and that is why I have said that we will not give up and that I will continue to struggle for democracy and to prevent this from happening, because this is very serious for our country. It is not a question of toying with democracy. Democracy should be respected in its fullest sense. It interprets the will of the Salvadoran people. This is the mistake that they are making. Hate, resentment and distrust are making the people lose their senses. This would lead even the humblest people -- those who voted for peace, those who voted because they have faith in democracy -- to feel frustrated, and if that happens an unsurmountable crisis might result.

That is why I say that it is up to all of us, and here I am including you and the national press media. We must generate good sense and responsibility, so that the wonderful example set by the Salvadoran people with their 1.3 million votes -- we should not allow such beautiful example for the whole world to become the beginning of the end. I think that the foundation of the elections is wonderful, and good, and we should not let this go to waste.

We must try to use this, to allow our country to progress. This is a task that we must all fulfill. That is my task, to try to create understanding and brotherhood, to set aside senseless passions and to seek means of establishing a process by which to forge ahead in three basic areas. These are changes in our structures, to establish justice in this country; respect for human rights and efforts to decrease violence in this country; and third, an effort to achieve the people's liberation through a democratic process. This is the task that I will undertake as long as I have the strength and potential.

[Question] (Giusepe Quesali) of Italian radio. Mr (Ray Prender) spoke of destabilization in these countries if the rightwing government prevents the participation of Christian Democracy. Do you feel the same way and, if so, why?

[Answer] I think I just explained that. The sociological phenomenon that is taking place is due precisely to the intense [word indistinct] and lack of understanding and perhaps to what I can call a gross political error by the rightwing sectors in having precipitated an attitude by trying to form a rightwing government that eliminates Christian Democracy. It is not a matter of eliminating Christian Democracy itself but the sociological phenomenon [words indistinct] and of course this is what, deep down, (Ray Prender) is saying.

[Question in English] (Jack Davis) of NBC News. Do you think the United States has a role in aiding the evolution now of the new government body of El Salvador? Is there a role for the United States in that, of whatever sort?

[Answer in English] I think that not only the United States but the whole world will have certain roles. There is no question that what happened in El Salvador is of a great importance for the rest of the Western world. In this world, the effect in each of the countries will be very important. But of course the positions and actions that any of the countries will take internally will also affect the country. For example, what happens if a congress will not approve aid because of the opinion that the congressmen will take in one direction or the other. This could affect the country. What would happen if the 22 countries in Latin America who have pledged to support El Salvador in the democratic direction would analyze the situation and (?focus on) the internal effects of this and start taking action in one direction or the other? They will affect the country. So you see, this is the reason why it is of great importance that you people will inform the world and your countries. With this process, which of course you have to understand is in the moment of a struggle internally, we are going to the first step, which is the elections itself. The people went out to vote. Now comes the struggle of power. There was [word indistinct]. There was no problem. But the problem is that we are in the middle of a confrontation; violence, hate is in the eyes of 700 newspaper or 800 newspaper people and in the eyes of the world.

So every country would and should at this moment be analyzing this and trying to focus, placing themselves in a position that this is a very difficult moment and that we will come out at the end, I hope, with a democratic solution. In the meantime, we will face a lot of trouble, a lot of problems. Peoples who still are in the parties which do not understand what happened, they are apt to have not interpreted correctly what the people have expressed in the elections. And therefore this might create more problems internally. So, in my opinion, the United States and the rest of the world countries should be aware of this situation and understand it and try to help us as long as they can do it. This would be my opinion.

[Question by Rene Contreras of ANSA] Mr President, will you maintain your position as your party's candidate for the provisional presidency at the Constituent Assembly? And if so, would that be a condition for talks with the other parties about a unity government?

On the basis of what you say about the crisis that might arise because of the other parties' attitudes, I would also like to ask you if there are diplomatic circles mediating, in given the gravity of this crisis?

[Answer] As for your first question, I would like to tell you that I was nominated at my party's national convention as the party's candidate, for presentation to the Constituent Assembly. This presentation has not yet happened. Therefore, obviously, the convention's decision stands.

Your second question is about mediation by foreign elements. I would say that all ambassadors and representatives of all countries are doubtlessly worried and are trying to obtain information from all political leaders. I think that you are doing the same, so as to make your reports, you to the press and they to their governments. However, this is a Salvadoran problem and only El Salvador should adopt any decision. Once the decision has been made, there is no dobut that it will have domestic and foreign implications, which no political leader can ignore. I would say that this might help a nation in the analysis of its own decision.

[Question in English by John (Halliman) of Cable News Network] I have only been here about 12 hours and I have already been out in the countryside and talked to the people. They say that out there there is so much fighting and so much gunfire that they don't even notice it anymore. How long is it going to be and what is it going to take to make the gunfire stop?

[Answer in English] Well, I am trying to say that I have not (?reached that goal). It is difficult for me to give definite answers, but if you go to history...are you American?

[Newsman] Yes.

[Duarte] If you go to your own country, to the history of your own country, you have to remember that the western area of the country was in constant fighting for 50 years before it went back to peace. It took the greatest country in the world, with a very strong structure, principles, arms and all your capacity more than 50 years to control that Western area. So it is not easy.

[Answer in English continues] When passions are exploited, when peace is without control, values are lost. It is very diffcult to get everyone in order. We realize this day by day, totalitarism, dictators imposing, lack of justice, lack of everything. It started to get in the heart of thousands and thousands of people in this country, and some of them traded themselves to a lost cause and radicalized themselves. They were ready. They only needed emotional encouragement. There are others who received what they were taught with hate in their heart. They were trained to hate. Others were trained to kill and these people, with arms in their hands, hated and willing to kill, were difficult to control. You will find that there are in the world people who want to provoke this. The whole Western world is now under the fire of violence and violence has become a means of troubling; then you see that it is more difficult for a small country like ours to get this internal condition,the emotional preparation, and at the same time the foreign forces are trying to provoke more violence. So we have to take the problems one by one and this is what we are doing. The purpose of this [word indistinct] was to diminish this explosion of violence, to put the pieces back and then we came to the elections, because we wanted the people to accept the new formula, and this is the mistake that the extreme right is making. They have to realize that this is only a step and this is not the whole works, because if they take back the whole works to where it was, what happens is that all the efforts to this [words indistinct] the people.

And this is the miscomprehension that is happening. So we have to think that this is only the first step; that after convincing the people to accept the formula, we have to make them participate in the formula and by doing that they isolate the roots of violence -- the people and the violent few. And by isolating them, damage will be reduced.

So this is the reason the extreme right is trying to get power now, because they don't want this, and this is the reason why the extreme left is shooting up the whole country, because they want this. So this is the struggle. If we win, if we make this country understand,if we make the people of this country participate, it will be a way to control the people, not to frustrate them, and to believe in the democratic way -- then the solution will be ahead. If we don't then the polarization will come up and this is why we are worried; the possibility that the mistake by this people, who, perhaps, have not understood the big problem, might provoke debates and disorders of this double polarization that might implement the problem.

[Question by (Kim Conway) of National Public Radio in English] Given the results of the elections, do you have any concern about your personal safety?

[Answer in English] What?

[Question in English] The results of the elections?

[Answer in English] Given the results of the elections, I am very glad. I am happy, because we had more than half a million votes for the green and the white. Look who voted for the Christian Democrats?

It was the poor people. It was the poor people who suffered and this was the important thing. In order to save the economy of this country, in order to give solutions to the country, we have to take measures, very difficult measures, like freezing salaries, for example. The state of siege is another example -- in all of these measures, the increment in the cost of food is another, that actually affect the poor people. But it is the poor people who understood the problem, and that is the reason why they went out to vote for the Christian Democrats, because they knew that we were doing this to save the country and to save them from more damage.

The problem is when the people who did not suffer, the people who had privileges, the people who had more riches, more intelligence to understand, they did not understand also. So I know that your question is about my life, but I wanted to say this because I think it is very important. Now there is no question that the right believes that I am in the middle and that my life and my elimination in the process would be the best thing that they would have, in order to, [newswoman interrupts] it's all right, it's all right I feel the same way. But I want to make sure that you understand that on top of this I have my responsibility and a compromise with my people. And that I will stay here. I will continue here and if they kill me it will be because I will be working for my people.

[Question by (Alejandro Molleda) of EL SOL of Mexico] How do you assess the U.S. Government's position on (?giving) its support and recognition to the rightwing unity in this country? My second question is as follows. If there is a social crisis, as you said, because the rightwing is in power, could the Salvadorans expect new intervention in the government by the Army?

[Answer] I am going to answer the first question. I think there might have been a bad interpretation of the statements issued in the United States so far. Some U.S. officials have said that the U.S. Government and people will help a government in this country that is democratically formed. They add -- and this is important and must be noted -- that they hope that the social reform will be maintained, that the country's democratization will be maintained and that human rights will be respected. This must be viewed in its real context. This cannot be interpreted as you have done. I think that there is a problem in the interpretation of the message that the U.S. officials have given. What was the second question?

[Question] Would there be a military intervention in the country if there is the crisis that you predict with the rightwing government?

[Answer] You are once again asking a speculative question that I could not and really should not answer. The country has forces that are undoubtedly influencing its future. The Armed Forces are one of them. The church is another. So, too, is the rightwing, which for over 50 years used infiltration, dominion through arrogance and economic blows to make the governments submit to its will. Today it had no recourse but to form political parties and to participate in the electoral process. It has generated votes and therefore it is a force that exists ("and if there). The Christian Democrats are a force that exists and that no one can ignore. They have the clear demonstration of 50 percent of the people's favor. And there is no doubt that the extreme leftwing produce effects through force and violence that worsen the country's crisis. All of this is the country's crisis and you cannot isolate one thing; you must analyze everything together, so that you can then begin to find adequate solutions.

Therefore, your question would be a hypothesis in which all of this would generate an inevitable irrational and illogical crisis. In the face of this, what would the Army do? Well, what would all of the forces do in the face of that? Because all of them would have to be included in that process. That is why I don't think it would be logical to think in terms of only one of the forces. Instead, it would be logical to think in terms of all of the forces that would have to seek formulas by which to overcome the crisis.

[Question by (Giorgio Torquia) of IL TEMPO of Italy] [Words indistinct] to find a solution to that crisis now, in the short term and in a definite manner. What parties have the possibility [words indistinct]?

[Answer] We are not worried, from the viewpoint of the party itself, about whether we are in the government or in the opposition. In the opposition we are a decisive force. We have been struggling in the opposition for 20 years and we know how to do this. What we are afraid of is that this error could generate frustration in various sectors, which no one will be able to stop. And that is going to be more serious.

As I said, what we would like is to make the obstinate sectors that have more emotional hatred understand that the formula of hatred cannot prevail. That is the reason for our concern. (?that is a concern). I can assure you that, inside or outside the government, the Christian Democrats have a historic task. [words indistinct] I would say that the country's situation would reach the point where they would be seeking ways to call upon us once again. Furthermore, there is no doubt that if the presidential elections were held soon, the Christian Democrats would win them. (?Therefore), we are not worried about that part. What we are worried about is the country's sociological problem. That is what we must analyze.

[Question in English by (Robert Sider) of the BBC of London] How do you see your role now as the leader of the opposition in this country, which is how you have expressed yourself?

[Answer in English] What is my role in what?

[Question in English] You have just said you felt in the opposition.

[Answer in English] Now wait a minute, I didn't say that.

[Question in Spanish] You said we of the opposition.

[Answer] We?

[Question] Of the opposition.

[Answer in English] No, I did not say that. He asked me a question. I answered but I did not say it. I am the government. I am the president of the junta, so you cannot come up with that question. Please redesign it once again.

[Question in English] Mr President, perhaps in a week or two you will no longer be president. How will you feel in your role then, perhaps as a leader of opposition to a rightwing government in this country?

[Answer in English] [Duarte laughs] The battle has not ended yet. No one can say at this moment what is going to happen and what kind of a new government we are going to have. Nobody can at this moment. So you cannot jump to the conclusion that the Christian Democrats are out of the government. But whenever the Christian Democrats are in government or if they are not, and this is the way I would answer the question, what would be my role? My personal role is to accept the responsibility of being humbly the head of the people who believe in democracy. We are creators, we are responsible for this process of democracy....[station breaks transmission]

[Station resumes transmission with answer in progress] ....Try to protect the people that are in danger. Try to look for formulas through which all the people of this country will have concord, reconciliation, understanding, comprehension. Try to maintain the hope and the faith in the formula of democracy. Try to maintain in [words indistinct] the fortunate [word indistinct] that are living in this country. Trying to help the campesinos in the cooperatives that produce better and more; trying to help the elderly people who are deserving, like I always have. This is the pledge that I made 20 years ago [words indistinct].

[Question in English by (name indistinct) of the Midway News] Mr President, throughout this news conference you have talked about all the weapons, the violence, the possibility of colonization. You've even acknowledged the possibility that some type of assassination attempt could be carried out against yourself. In a way I can't help but think that this seems to be an indictment of the whole elections process we just witnessed. How can we be talking about these things 3 or 4 days after an election that was supposed to be bringing El Salvador closer to democracy?

[Answer in English] I am sorry. I did not hear the first part but I would gather that what you are saying is that after all these pledges of .... [Duarte interrupted by same newsman]

[Question in English] Why are we still talking about this now, 3 days after the elections have occurred?

[Answer in English] Well, what happens is this. Your question comes from the basis of supposing that this is going to be an extreme right government. So you are pessimistic. Your questions are pessimistic. I am not. I am not pessimistic. I am optimistic that we'll come out of this.

I believe that the people have not made a mistake. I believe that the people went out to vote, to maintain the structure of democracy, and that anybody who makes the mistake of [words indistinct] the election, anybody who makes the mistake of not understanding what happened [words indistinct].

So I think that the problem is that the analysis of the press is pessimistic. You have taken for granted that Mr D'Aubuisson has come out and made a coalition of all the parties and that he already has power in his hands. And based on that is the kind of question you are asking. But I am not in that position. I believe that, still, yet, and I have failed, still, yet, there is no answer [words indistinct] solution for the next government and again, the solutions are welcome; if democratic, then it is good for the people. It is good for the country. The problem is if the solution is not democratic. Then we have problems.

If the extreme right wants to impose and destroy the reforms and destroy democracy, then we have problems, but I believe that this will not come. I believe that there will be [begins to speak in Spanish] common sense, a commonsense action, how could we say this?... no... [resumes in English] logical understanding of the people in the direction of all the parties that understand the damage that they could do to the country, because you know that as this country goes back to destroy the reforms, if it goes back to the violence condition, this country would be isolated, completely isolated from other countries.

Do you think that the United States would, even though the government would like to help, or try to help, do you think that the United States (?allocate) aid for the kind of government that would be going back from all the efforts that have been made for the last years? I don't think so.

So, this is the damage that you would have. This country at this moment needs the comprehension and understanding of the world, the Western world. Actually I am not pessimistic, I am optimistic because I know what the effects are and I know that these effects will make the leaders of the other parties understand that they cannot take decisions that will damage the country. But also because I have faith in the people and I know that the people will not just accept a stubborn resolution. I am not pessimistic, I am optimistic. I don't know whether that answered your question or not, but this is the way I feel.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer in English] No. All right. Tell me why.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer in English] Sure; I don't want to argue with you, but...[newswoman interrupts]

[Question] No, I don't want to argue, but it just goes back to the beginning. I am glad you are optimistic and I hope that you are right, but still I keep wondering; you had an election and you seem to think that the only, from what you said, I get the impression that you seem to think that the only thing that may keep the extreme right, as you call it, from turning back some of the reforms is what the United States might say. Now, what does that have to do with the internal process of an election here?

[Answer in English] I just gave an example of what could happen. But you can [words indistinct] and you can analyze the same thing. So you have a foreign image. You have a problem there, and you have internally also a problem, people can get frustrated. And you have guerrilla action. And you have soldiers dying also. All that has to be considered. So it is not simple. It is not just a matter of saying all right from now on the extreme right will take power and that is it. I think it is too simple and too dangerous. That is the reason why I am optimistic.

[Question] Rene Delgado of Mexico. Mr President, since the Christian Democratic Party has expressed its intention to begin negotiations with sectors of the right and of the extreme right, my first question is whether the Christian Democratic Party would be willing to form a government with sectors of the right and of the extreme right. My second question is, based on statements by the extreme right that one of the main obstacles, or a main objection expressed by the people with their vote, was your presence in power, are you willing to give up power in order to have negotiations that would be for the benefit of the Salvadoran people? My third and last question is whether the Christian Democratic Party, in view of the position it was put in by the Salvadoran opposition, would be willing to negotiate with the Revolutionary Democratic Front, FDR and FMLN?

[Answer] The first question is whether the Christian Democratic Party would be willing to (?negotiate) a government with sectors of the right and of the extreme right? I would say that represented by the sectors that participated in the elections, then obviously all sectors that are represented there are going to have to talk and to decide how they will cast their votes to elect a government. This clearly indicates that the Christian Democratic Party has 24 votes for sure, which cannot be disregarded. On the other hand, the other parties' votes cannot be overlooked. Obviously we must take every aspect into consideration. This is what the democratic process is about. What we cannot do is violate democratic process, nor take advantage of it to impose our will. That is the difference. This answers your first question.

The second question is whether I am willing to step aside? Let us put it this way -- my personal position does not count here. It is up to the Christian Democratic Party to make a decision at its national convention, to assume another position. However, I can tell you one thing -- I am a Christian Democrat and as such, I am disciplined and I will submit to the party's decision. That is the reason I am here. I did not choose to be here. I am here because the Christian Democratic Party decided it at a national convention. I am, therefore, committed to that decision.

The third question refers to another issue. Look, the right tried by all possible means to enter the government, asking for negotiations and dialogue, trying to participate in the government by exerting all sorts of pressure. We did not accept it, because it was not right. We said that democratic means were necessary. Now, the right has democratic representation in the government.

That is the right way. The left was told the same. We told them not to impose their positions by the use of force, because that would only achieve isolation and exclusion from real participation in the country's political life and destiny.

I insist that it is up to the political left of the FDR, and the military left of the FMLN, to realize that they will never obtain any support for their participation through violence. They can impose their will by force, but it will only mean more bloodshed. If they are real patriots, if they are true Salvadorans, they should admit that their methods are wrong.

Once again, as I have done for the past 2 years, I am asking these sectors to admit their mistakes and to assume a responsible attitude toward their people, to give up violence and to accept the democratic method and rules. If they do, I am sure that the noble Salvadoran people will open their doors to them. This is my message to them.

I think that there are some elements of the extreme left who believe that what they are doing is best for their country. I also think that there are sectors of the extreme right, who honestly believe that they are doing the right thing for their country. But I am sure of one thing, and that is that we cannot deny that the people's decision was clear and definite. They have said no to violence. They have told the guerrillas, you are wrong. They have told the extremists that their formulas are not wanted by the people. If we are to hold a dialogue we must have similar parameters and factors. The people have said that their factor is democracy. What we are trying to tell the left, what the people are telling them, is that negotiations cannot be held with machineguns on the table. The people will not negotiate with violence. The people want a dialogue that is cordial and that is characterized by commonsense, in which all of the country's forces can participate by accepting the rules of democracy. When we do, we will be talking the same language, walking in the same direction and the country will overcome its crisis. Otherwise, intransigence, hatred, violence and death are going to prevail. If this is so, we won't be doing any good to our fatherland. That is why I am asking Salvadorans of both extremes to accept this proposal.

RIVERA Y DAMAS ASKS GUERRILLAS TO LAY DOWN ARMS

PA051931 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1735 GMT 4 Apr 82

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Following last Sunday's elections for a Constituent Assembly, the various Salvadoran sectors must strive for the country's pacification, apostolic administrator of San Salvador Arturo Rivera y Damas stated today. During the Sunday homily at the metropolitan cathedral, Rivera y Damas indicated that this week the Salvadorans had lived through unprecedented elections held in the unusual environment of a civil war.

Rivera y Damas explained that the quantitative and qualitative vote of the Salvadorans should be analyzed, because no one can complain about the turnout, and the parties must be satisfied because the electoral process concluded happily. Qualitatively, Rivera y Damas added, we must analyze why the people voted massively. And here we must explain that they did so "because they are tired of violence and hope that this will be the beginning of a solution in this sea of confusion and sorrow in which we live." He added that the political parties now have "the tremendous responsibility of realizing that those who voted chose a given party because they really believed there were different ideologies among them."

Rivera y Damas asked: "If the belief had existed that all were ideologically the same, why were there so many different parties? Why didn't they use one banner? The parties must think about this, because the will of the people cannot be mocked," the prelate added.

Rivera y Damas said that the people hope the socioeconomic reforms underway will be continued and strengthened into a veritable political platform that will satisfy their hopes for peace and justice.

Rivera y Damas said that the leftwing FDR and the FMLN must accept the will of the Salvadoran people expressed at the polls for peace, democracy and justice. "The guerrillas must leave the path of arms and destruction to seek other paths that will permit them to gain credibility and confidence to contribute to the country's reconstruction and to secure peace," Rivera y Damas added. The prelate noted that all international observers unanimously recognized that the elections were honest, although security and surveillance measures did not permit the voting to be quicker. The apostolic administrator concluded by saying that despite the enlightening lapse of the elections, the life of the Salvadorans is filled with clouds, uncertainties "as when a storm is approaching."

ARMY REPORTS SERIOUS SKIRMISH IN SOYAPANGO

PA021953 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 1 Apr 82 p 36

[From the "Last-Minute Local News" column]

[Excerpt] It reported that yesterday at approximately 1815 there was a skirmish in northern Soyapango between subversives and members of the armed forces. The clash lasted approximately 1 hour. An armed forces helicopter that was trying to bring the situation under control received heavy fire from subversives onthe ground. There was shooting everywhere, generating panic among the residents of the area, according to the report.

Some Soyapango residents reportedly succumbed to nervous hysteria as a result of the seriousness of the confrontation. No casualties have been reported as yet, but area residents indicate that several people may have been killed and injured in this skirmish.

MERCENARIES REPORTEDLY LANDING IN USULUTAN

PA032310 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 2 Apr 82 p 3

[Text] According to an official report, fishermen and peasants of San Dionisio, Usulutan Department, have reported to the armed forces that for the past several days Nicaraguan mercenaries are being landed at Jiquilisco Bay. They explained that the mercenaries, well-armed and carrying bundles, supposedly arms and other war materiel, are transported at dawn in small outboard moter boats and dropped off in the mangrove swamp channels, and later guided inland by Salvadoran guerrillas.

In the past 2 days, many groups were seen mobilizing at approximately 0600 in various directions while others, according to the informants, entered the forests along the coast. According to military sources, in the forests there are guerrilla camps, which are very difficult to control. The peasants said they believe the majority of the mercenaries to be Nicaraguans because of their accent and the way they express themselves.

Groups of Salvadoran guerrillas wait near the mangrove swamps to receive and guide the mercenaries to their destination. They bring pack animals to carry the bundles brought by the mercenaries to various points in the southwestern El Salvador. The landings have been more frequent in Puerto Grande, in Soledad canton, jurisdiction of San Dionisio, it was said.

REPORT ON TERRORIST EFFORTS TO STOP ELECTIONS

PA022123 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1903 GMT 31 Mar 82

[Text] The local garrison commander and the mayor of *Villa Sociedad), Morazan Department, were murdered last Sunday by a group of terrorists who were trying to prevent voters from participating in the elections for deputies to the Constituent Assembly. Commander (Jose Perla) was taken from his home and shot to death. Mayor (Humberto Blanco) was killed in a similar manner.

In the nearby town of Apopa, a group of subversives who invaded residential neighborhoods sustained many casualties when the guerrillas clashed with army troops. On Bonete Hill, two soldiers from the 1st Infantry Brigade were clubbed to death by the extremists, who also killed a young market vendor, the wife of a retired commander. However, the troops defeated the invaders many of whom were found dead in the area around Apopa.

On Monday and Tuesday, confrontations between terrorists and military authorities continued in Usulutan. The fighting extended to the towns of Santa Maria, San Dionisio and Ereguayquin. On Monday morning, contingents from the Atlacatl Batallion, who are experts in antiguerrilla warfare, arrived to begin a house-to-house search, since the terrorists had climbed onto rooftops. According to a report from the armed forces press committee, the situation in Usulutan and the surrounding towns had been brought under complete control as of yesterday and the bands of terrorists had fled in panic to the mountainous areas in the region. There has been no official report on the number of casualties sustained by either side.

HAVANA REPORTS FMLN ATTACK ON USULUTAN

PA032008 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] Twelve troops of the Salvadoran Christian Democratic-military regime have been killed and 30 have been wounded in the latest fighting in Usulutan, which is under constant harassment by FMLN guerrillas.

The FMLN forces also inflicted some 20 casualties, including dead and wounded, on National Guard troops and paramilitary groups who were ambushed by the rebels. The revolutionaries also attacked the garrison at San Francisco Goteras, where an elite battalion has headquarters.

FMLN Successes Claimed

PA041911 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] The forces of the military-Christian Democratic regime of El Salvador had 12 dead and 30 wounded during the fighting that took place in the past few days in the city of Usulutan, which remains besieged by FMLN guerrillas. The Salvadoran guerrillas inflicted another 20 casualties on the National Guard and paramilitary groups during an ambush. The Salvadoran revolutionaries also attacked the San Francisco Goteras barracks that houses a Special Forces battalion.

Meanwhile, Col Domingo Monterrosa, chief of the Atlacatl Battalion, which is trained by U.S. Green Berets, has complained about a lack of cooperation from other army units and noted that more U.S. helicopters are necessary to fight the guerrillas because they, he said, have great mobility and know the field very well.

GUERRILLAS DO NOT ACCEPT ELECTORAL RESULTS

PA042022 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1145 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] San Jose, 2 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- A number of Salvadoran guerrilla spokesmen announced in this capital that they will not accept the results of the elections held Sunday. Both the FMLN and the Revolutionary Democratic Front have described the Salvadoran elections as "a huge propaganda exercise by the Reagan administration and the government junta" led by Jose Napoleon Duarte, in an effort to achieve international legality. In an "analysis with an eye at the future," the revolutionaries assert that the first consequence of the 28 March election is the "legalization of fascism, which is represented by former Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson's party." Both the guerrilla and the Christian Democrats themselves have accused D'Aubuisson of leading a number of death squads.

The elections, they add, "open the doors of legality to the sectors responsible for the negation of democracy in El Salvador and for the assassination of Monsignor Romero as well as to those who have publicly offered 'napalm' to kill the subversives." According to the FMLN and the FDR, a third consequence is "the weakening of the Christian Democrats, which, in order to remain in the government, has no other alternative than to share it with both continuism and fascism." According to the guerrilla representatives, the Salvadoran elections "represent neither a solution to the conflict nor the free will of the people."

GUATEMALA

FOREIGN MINISTER DEPLORES ATTACK ON U.S. EMBASSY

PA032018 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] One of the most recent terrorist actions was an attack against the U.S. Embassy on Reforma Avenue where a bomb, launched by a rocket, hit the third floor causing some damage last night, the day after the U.S. Government recognized the military junta. The Guatemalan Foreign Ministry today deplored this attack. According to Foreign Minister Alfonso Alonso Lima, Guatemala, which was excluded from the U.S. Government plan for the Caribbean Basin apparently for political reasons, is studying the possibility of asking the United States to include it in that plan. He said:

[Begin recording] This is a matter that is being studied not only by the Foreign Ministry but by other ministries such as that of economy and finance.

[Question] When will relations with Spain be resumed?

[Answer] I cannot set a date [words indistinct] I already announced that junta President General Rios Montt has expressed the decision to maintain relations with all countries in the world. The case of Spain is included within that framework. [end recording]

The U.S. Government will submit a peace proposal for the Central American countries. Foreign Minister Lima expressed the Guatemalan position in this regard:

[Begin recording] A peace proposal for the Central American area; we will have to carefully study any proposal concerning this. We are a peace-loving country and we would view with satisfaction any movement made in this direction. I believe that a government as serious as that of the military junta cannot be expected to make a decision without having studied the proposal. [end recording]

HONDURAS

MINOR DAMAGE FROM TERRORIST FIRE AT U.S. EMBASSY

PA051912 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1850 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Unidentified persons in a taxi fired revolvers and automatic weapons at the U.S. chancellory and the Agency for International Development [AID] building in Tegucigalpa, according to reports from the U.S. diplomatic delegation.

(Presencio) Arcos, director of USICA, reported that the attack took place at approximately 0500 today, when an undetermined number of unidentified individuals traveling in a white taxi fired .38 cal weapons at the AID office and automatic weapons at the U.S. Embassy, causing minor damage to a window and to the rest of the building. Arcos said that it has not yet been determined whether the taxi in which the terrorists were traveling has been located by the police, but he assumed that it had been stolen by the subversives before they carried out the attack.

The USICA director reportedly said that the damage to the embassy was insignificant and that the AID offices, where the USICA headquarters is also located, were not damaged at all.

Arcos said the taxi was headed from east to west on La Paz Avenue and that, after the shots had been fired at the building, it took off at high speed in the direction of downtown Tegucigalpa. The diplomatic official said the U.S. ambassador had already reported the attack to the Honduran Foreign Secretariat, and that the investigations authorities are expected to carry out the usual efforts to identify and locate those responsible for the criminal attack.

Meanwhile, police sources reported that the taxi, whose license number was not given, is being sought by detectives, who expect to locate it in the next few hours. The sources added that they had no further details to give regarding the attack, since the report had been presented to the Foreign Secretariat and not to the police.

GOVERNMENT DENOUNCES NICARAGUAN 'PROVOCATIONS'

PA051515 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Apr 82 p 3

[Foreign Affairs Secretariat press communique dated 4 April 82]

[Text] Armed Forces Headquarters has informed the Foreign Secretariat of new incidents provoked by the Nicaraguan authorities on Honduran territory.

On Friday, 2 April, at 1400 hours in the sector known as Las Cuatro Esquinas, in El Triunfo jurisdiction, Nicaraguan Government elements apprehended the following persons and took them away: Maria Antonio Guevara, 55; Teodoro Vasquez, 70; Santos Rudilio Espinoza, 13; Maria Cristina Espinoza, 7; and Juana Antonia Aguilar, 14. All of these persons are from the town of El Cedral in the above-mentioned municipality.

On Saturday, 3 April, Nicaraguan Government elements kidnapped youth Aurelio Amador, who is from El Triunfo municipality.

On that same date a Nicaraguan Government aircraft entered Honduran airspace and repeatedly overflew the Madrigales post of the Honduran customs police, which is in the jurisdiction of Concepcion de Maria municipality. The aircraft was flying at a height of 1,000 feet and immediately returned to Nicaragua.

The Honduran Government finds it once more necessary to denounce these incidents mentioned as regrettable, as they violate our national sovereignty. The Honduran Government is going to lodge the protests and demands that the above-mentioned cases call for, based on the reports prepared by the competent authorities. Tegucigalpa D.C., 4 April 1982. Foreign Affairs Secretariat.

MISKITOS CHARGE SANDINIST MISDEEDS IN NICARAGUA

PA031330 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 2 Apr 82 p 2

[Excerpts] Sandinists have set fire to villages and to Miskitos. It has been charged that a lady who was unable to walk was set on fire, together with 34 other Miskitos.

Four Miskitos who identified themselves as Nicaraguan refugees charged in Tegucigalpa yesterday that in the camps put up in Gracias a Dios Department they are enduring hardships after having escaped from "the disaster that the communists imposed on us in Nicaragua." This was said yesterday in a news conference by Rodolfo Gonzalez, Gamero Belil, Wadtens Colens and Mantenor Lopez Stone, who made serious charges against the Sandinist regime.

They first criticized the UN High Commission for Refugees for allowing them to live in subhuman conditions, without food, since food is being rationed for approximately 7,000 refugees. "Approximately 100 children have died from lack of medicine and many are going naked and without shoes," the refugees noted, imploring help. They strongly criticized the Nicaraguan Government, especially for developing what is known there as "Tasba Pri," a plan that includes transferring the Miskitos from the border areas to the interior of the country.

In a special report, the Sandinist regime justifies this work, noting that there is a need to protect the Indians from incursions carried out by counterrevolutionaries. The report is known as "Tasba Pri." It notes that the places where the Miskitos had been living must be burned to prevent the "counterrevolutionaries" from finding facilities for their anti-Sandinist activities. To compensate for this, the Sandinist government builds homes for the Indians in the places where they are relocated. These places are joined to the rest of the country by the road to Zelaya Department, the refugees said.

The refugees charge, however, that the Sandinist soldiers have taken advantage of this situation and burned alive Indians who were in a church refusing to go to a concentration camp. The refugees noted that those who could not walk were put inside a house and set on fire. Many died this way, the refugees said and added: they also have thousands of prisoners.

The refugees charged that the Sandinists have completely burned 68 communities, have murdered several Miskitos and buried them in common graves. One hundred churches have also been destroyed by fire. Many Indians are surrounded by soldiers.

Not long ago, 600 Indians who escaped -- from 3,000 who had been trapped -- entered Honduras and sought refuge in Bocoron. The refugees think that the others have been killed. In Rio Coco there are 1,800 Indians who cannot get out because they are being watched by the soldiers. They said that they wanted to use the news conference to denounce how the communist government of Nicaragua operates.

'CINCHONEROS' TAKE OVER RADIO FOR BROADCAST

PA032023 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1818 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 3 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Members of the "Cinchonero" command of the leftist "Morazanist National Liberation Front" of Honduras, this morning took over a local radio station to broadcast a message. The guerrillas arrived at the radio station at 0530 (1130 GMT), tied up the announcer who was reading the news at the time and ordered a radio operator to play a 30-minute tape. They then also tied up the operator and locked him in a nearby room and then left with a pistol that they found in a desk.

The guerrilla message called for the release of political prisoners, the rejection of the construction of U.S. military bases in Honduras and end to harassment of refugees. It also denounced U.S. intervention in El Salvador.

The "Cinchonero" command became notorious last year when it claimed credit for hijacking an airplane belonging to the privately-owned SAHSA airline of Honduras and diverting it to Managua and Panama.

Radio San Pedro, the station which was attacked, belongs to the audio video network and has its main installations in the northern part of the country, although it is broadcast in the capital through a relay station.

NICARAGUA

AMBASSADOR TO HONDURAS 'URGENTLY RECALLED'

PA052205 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2140 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Managua, 5 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Today the Sandinist government junta urgently recalled Guillermo Suarez Rivas, its ambassador to Tegucigalpa, and accused the Honduran Government of being "incapable" of "putting an end to the counterrevolutionary activity of Somozist bands." A note issued by the Foreign Ministry notes that the attacks that "military units of the Honduran Army and counterrevolutionary bands, supported by certain Honduran military sectors," have carried out on its northern border for the past few months are "repeated and systematic."

According to the Nicaraguan note, the government headed by Roberto Suazo Cordova, a Liberal Party leader, "has so far been incapable of implementing any measure, repeatedly requested by the Nicaraguan Government, to put an end to the criminal activities" of the anti-Sandinist groups. "Unfortunately, the note adds, "the calls that have been made to preserve the tranquility and peace needed for the normal development of relations in our region have not found the expected response, considering the interests that we want to safeguard." In the same note, the Nicaraguan Government reaffirms "once again its desire to hold talks and its undeniable faith in peace."

Ambassador Suarez Rivas is expected in Managua today, but fears were expressed unofficially that he might have difficulties in returning. The Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua today accused each other of provoking new incidents along their common border.

The Honduran Foreign Minister issued a bulletin stating that Sandinist peoples army soldiers were responsible for the kidnapping of six peasants in Cuatro Esquinas, Choluteca Province, Honduras. At the same time, the Nicaraguan newspaper BARRICADA, the official FSLN organ, charged that 20 Honduran Army soldiers had made an incursion into Nicaraguan territory and kidnapped peasants in La Ceiba, Chinandega Province.

Foreign Ministry Communique

PA060235 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry Communique No 6 to the people issued on 5 April]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry announces the following to the Nicaraguan people:

That in view of the repeated and systematic attacks on the northern border, to which Nicaragua has been subjected for months, by Honduran Army military units and counter-revolutionary bands, supported by certain sectors of the Honduran Armed Forces; and given that the authorities of that country's government have so far been unable to implement any of the measures that the Nicaraguan Government has repeatedly requested to put an end to the criminal activities of those bands; it has had to recall our ambassador accredited before the Honduran Government, Companero Guillermo Suarez Rivas, for urgent consultation.

The Nicaraguan Government takes advantage of this occasion to reiterate its desire to hold talks and its unwavering faith in peace. Unfortunately, the appeals made, which have sought to preserve the peace and accord necessary for the normal development of relations in our region, have not met with the expected response, considering the interests that we want to safeguard.

HONDURAN TROOPS ACCUSED OF KIDNAPPING CITIZENS

PA051603 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Honduran Army forces yesterday carried out another act of provocation. They entered Nicaraguan territory and the village of La Ceiba where they seized 21 peasants and took them away. The action was carried out at noon by 20 members of the Honduran National Guard who, after capturing the Nicaraguan peasants, returned to Honduran territory. They then went to Cholutec.

The group of peasants includes seven women, nine children and five men. In a telephone conversation, Commander Manuel Salvatierra, the Honduran officer who is responsible for the area, explained that the Honduran forces had adopted this measure in response to the alleged kidnapping, the day before, of six Hondurans. This information was provided last night by our Foreign Ministry which is preparing a protest note because of this new provocation.

The women and children who were captured and then jailed in Choluteca were released yesterday after being beaten by Honduran soldiers. According to reports from Chinandega City, the women and children who had been kidnapped by Honduran soldiers from the village Le Ceiba -- 200 meters away from the border, in national territory, in Chinandega Department, have been released, but not before they were beaten by the soldiers. The release came as a result of the efforts that the Nicaraguan revolutionary government has been carrying out.

However, five Nicaraguan companeros have not been released yet and they remain in a Choluteca jail. Choluteca is the capital of the Honduran Department of Choluteca.

Acting Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco yesterday called Honduran Ambassador to Managua Roberto Perdomo Paredes to the Foreign Ministry to give him a protest note because of the violation of Nicaraguan territory and the kidnapping of the La Ceiba peasants. Efforts being made to obtain the release of the peasants will continue today. Nicaragua has adopted defensive measures so that this type of action does not happen again. Our country will never be caught off guard by the provocations being carried out by the Honduran Army to create justification for aggression by Yankee imperialism.

FRENCH COMMUNITY LEADER MARCHAIS CONTINUES VISIT

PA010321 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 1 Apr 82

[Text] Georges Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party visited the Planning Ministry and the Council of State today with his delegation. The high-level delegation visited Deputy Planning Minister Luis Enrique Figueroa this morning. The Nicaraguan official explained to the honored guests the government's firm commmitment to economic changes favoring the workers. He offered full details of the advances and goals attained by our country after the triumph of the Sandinist people's revolution.

The French Communist Party delegation also visited Revolutionary Commander Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the State Council; and companero Rafael Solis, State Council secretary and deputy commander. Nunez Tellez explained the decision of the Nicaraguan people and their vanguard, the FSLN, to strengthen the revolution. He discussed various aspects of the international political situation in view of U.S. imperialism's threats to invade Nicaragua.

Companero Marchais reasserted his party's hope that a political solution can be found to the serious situation confronting the Salvadoran brothers and expressed support for the Nicaraguan position at the UN Security Council. He said that the Sandinist revolution is a true confirmation that peoples no longer wish to remain underdeveloped and dependent on imperialism.

He further stated that U.S. imperialism supports the Salvadoran junta because it guarantees the nation's exploitation and dependence and that it is the workers and peasants of that country who have taken up arms to eradicate injustice. Marchais said that there are over 200 million human beings in the world who live under conditions of humilization and exploitation by imperialism. This enables us to realize why peoples strive to be free, he concluded.

Visits Ramirez

PA041546 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Government junta member, Dr Sergio Ramirez, has received French Communist Party (PCF) Secretary General Georges Marchais and (Nasile Grenet), member of that party's Politbureau. During the exchange of greetings, Companero Marchais expressed his satisfaction at being in Nicaragua in these difficult times, which enables the PCF to give support rather than solidarity.

Marchais also said: (?At this point we would like) [words indistinct] give its support to the constructive proposals formulated by [word indistinct] Commander Daniel Ortega at the United Nations. These proposals are just and (?constitute) the right of the people [words indistinct], independence and sovereignty [words indistinct].

Ramirez for his part said that the French leader's visit shows that our country has the support of the PCF, which represents an important sector of the French people.

Supports Defense Actions

PA041713 Paris AFP in Spanish 2251 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] Managua, 2 Apr (AFP) -- "The Nicaraguan Government has the right to take all the measures deemed necessary to prepare its people to defend itself from any type of aggression," Georges Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party (PCF) stated here today.

At the end of a 4-day visit during which he met with the country's foremost authorities, Marchais appealed to all the countries and parties of the world to follow the example of the PCF and "to promote specific assistance to Nicaragua." Marchais expressed his conclusion that in a very short time Nicaragua has achieved "positive results in its efforts toward national reconstruction amid liberty, as they proposed since 1979."

This, he added, makes more criminal the U.S. administration's destabilization policy because it forces the concentration of all the country's efforts in the defense of the fatherland. "In the face of threats, pressures, provocations and aggression that are handled or carried out by the Reagan administration, we believe that the Nicaraguan Government has every right and the duty to take all measures to defend the country," Marchais added.

The visitor recalled the French Government's position regarding the situation in Central America, citing the French-Mexican declaration in favor of a search for a political solution to the crisis in the region, its support of the Nicaraguan proposals voiced before the UN Security Council and the development of French cooperation to Nicaragua.

He noted that the Nicaraguan proposals to improve its relations with the United States, to resolve the crisis in Central America and the Caribbean in general "constitute a serious basis of negotiation between the parties concerned and that is why they were broadly supported by the United Nations."

HAVANA SEES POLITICS BEHIND FALKLANDS INVASION

FL060038 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] The conflict in the Malvinas between Argentina and Great Britain, manipulated for domestic policy reasons by both governments, continued moving this afternoon toward a military confrontation. Great Britain, the third-ranking naval power in the world, sent its war fleet today to the southern Atlantic. Meanwhile, Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington and Defense Secretary John Nott resigned in London. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher decided to keep Nott and appoint Mr Francis Pym as the new foreign secretary of the United Kingdom.

The Argentine foreign minister, Nicanor Costa Mendez, officially reported this afternoon in Washington that his country is studying the possibility of resorting to the so-called Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty -- TIAR -- against an eventual show of British force in the Malvinas Islands.

For his part, U.S. President Ronald Reagan admitted in a press conference that his administration is in a very difficult position because it has close ties with the countries involved in the dispute. Reagan added that Washington will do everything it can to seek an understanding between Argentina and Great Britain, whose respective governments found in the Malvinas a fitting topic to divert attention from the acute economic problems of both nations.

Sources in Buenos Aires noted that the financial cost of Argentina's operation to recover the Malvinas would be $500 million provided things do not deteriorate further. This cost will add to this year's expected deficit, which Economy Minister Roberto Alemann tried to reduce in January with his stern measures.

In London, the jingoistic agitation surrounding the recovery of the Malvinas Islands by Argentina is growing by the hour and some opinion polls show that nearly 80 percent of Britons want the Conservative government to use force in the islands in the southern Atlantic. However, military operations against Argentina could cost British taxpayers at one blow more than $400 million at a time when the country is one of the capitalist powers most affected by the economic crisis.

Operation Seen as Smokescreen

FL060151 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Argentine troops in the Malvinas Islands were reinforced in the face of growing certainty that Great Britain could force the country into an escalation of violence, according to military sources in Buenos Aires. PRENSA LATINA commented that the conflict tended to get worse to the extent that the Conservative government of Margaret Thatcher, in order to stay in power is forced to take concrete military steps to try to recover one of its last colonies or increase its leverage for negotiation.

Something that attracts attention is that capitalist news agencies have substantially cut down their reporting on El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua at a time when new Salvadoran guerrilla actions are taking place, the Nicaraguans confront renewed aggression from Honduras sponsored by the United States and repudiation grows in Guatemala against the new coupist government. One should ask whether the dispute over the Malvinas Islands is not being used to hide new imperialist actions in Central America and, what is worse, preparations for an interventionist escalation of wide scope. World opinion must be on the alert.

CARICOM MINISTERS SUPPORT REAGAN AID PLAN

PA021846 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1815 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Belmopan, Belize, 2 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The foreign ministers of CARICOM have voiced general support for the regional aid plan announced by the Reagan administration, but hinted at concern regarding the distribution of that aid.

A communique released by the CARICOM foreign ministers today at the end of a 2-day meeting in Belize states: "We welcome President Reagan's aid plan, but we feel that the U.S. proposals do not respond to the development needs of the Caribbean Nations' economies." The CARICOM foreign ministers, who represent 12 English-speaking countries, indicated that the Reagan plan does not contain specific provisions for aiding intergovernmental organizations such as CARICOM itself and the Caribbean Development Bank.

Joint Communique Issued

FL021950 Bridgetown CANA in English 1720 GMT 2 Apr 82

[Text] Belize City, 2 Apr (CANA) -- Foreign Ministers from the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), a 12-nation English-speaking group, have agreed to hold further talks on having the region declared a zone of peace. They have also decided that regional government officials concerned with the Law of the Sea should meet "as a matter of urgency" to discuss new boundary lines and the management of maritime zones.

These were among major aspects of a communique issued here last night after two days of discussions that showed progress on a regional response to the United States new aid plan for the Caribbean and Central America but required further consultations on having the Caribbean declared a zone of peace. The ministers said CARICOM would send a small exploratory mission to Andean Pact countries to look into the possibility of cooperation between the two countries.

They also expressed support for a Honduran Government proposal for establishing peace in the Caribbean and the Americas. The proposal deals with "the maintenance of absolute respect for defined border demarcations and traditional lines of jurisdictions of states of the region."

The foreign ministers said they were backing Guyana in its territorial dispute with Venezuela. Venezuela claims five-eighths of Guyana.

Following is the bulk of the communique issued by the ministers (excluding statement on the U.S. Caribbean Basin Initiative):

The Caribbean as a zone of peace: The open-ended working group on the zone of peace, established at the sixth meeting of the standing committee which was held in St. Georges, Grenada, last year, held a meeting preparatory to the ministerial session, on March 29. The working group, consisting in the first place of Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica and St Lucia, identified and analysed certain elements for possible inclusion in a declaration on the Caribbean as a zone of peace.

The ministers considered the interim report of the working group and agreed that a group comprising all members of the standing committee should be convened to ontinue the work of formulating the declaration on a zone of peace.

Law of the Sea: The minsters recognised the need for a coordinated approach on matters relating to the Law of the sea, especially in respect of the small states of the eastern Caribbean. "In this regard, the ministers agreed that a meeting of officials on the Law of the Sea should be convened as a matter of urgency to deal with questions concerning the delminitation of boundaries and the management of maritime zones."

Membership in the Caribbean Community: The ministers considered recommendations of a group of Caribbean experts who were commissioned to prepare a strategy on the regional integration movement in the decade of the 1980's.

(A) The recommendation to open membership of the community to smaller English-speaking territories of the Caribbean was discussed by the ministers. They agreed that the secretary general should be authorised to hold informal consultations to seek their views on the possibility of their participation in additional areas of functional cooperation which are of interest to them. This would be done in keeping with the terms of a decision of the inaugural meeting of the conference of heads of government in St Lucia in July 1874.

(B) The ministers also discussed the interest expressed by certain other countries in entering into a formal relationship with CARICOM.

Relations With Latin America: The ministers welcomed the opportunity for the establishment of closer relations between CARICOM and certain Latin American countries. They also took note of increasing contacts with exchanges with (sic) Latin America countries in the exploration of possible areas of mutual cooperation. In discussing this item the ministers took note that a study had been commissioned on CARICOM/Latin American relations which is expected to provide the basis for discussions and future action.

The study is being executed by Mr Don Mills, Jamaica's former permanent representative to the United Nations and chairman of the Group of 77; and Dr Vaughn Lewis, director of the Institute of Social and Economic Research, UWI (University of the West Indies).

The meeting was also informed of an upcoming visit to the Andean Common Market by a small exploratory mission form the CARICOM Secretariat. This visit will provide the opportunity for an examination of the evolution of the Andean Pact with a view to identifying possible areas of cooperation between the group and the Caribbean community. Both activities are being financed with the assistance of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America.

The standing committee noted the peace proposals for the hemisphere which have been advanced by President Portillo of Mexico. It also noted the six-point programme which was proposed by the Honduran Government at a meeting of the Permanent Council of the OAS on March 23, 1982, for establishing peace in the region. In particular they endorsed point five which advocate "the maintenance of absolute respect for defined borders, demarcations and traditional lines of jurisdiction of state of the region so as not to disturb the peace by new disputes that could arise over the territorial and maritime order."

In supporting Belize's maintenance of its territorial integrity, the standing committee called for the full resepct of this principle.

With reference to Guyana/Venezuela relations, the standing committee noted that when the protocol of Port-of-Spain comes to an end on 18th June 1982, the provisions of the Geneva Agreement will again be operative. In reiterating its support for Guyana, the standing committee called upon the parties to the agreement to scrupulously adhere to its provisions and to seek by peaceful means a settlement to the controversy which has arisen as a result of Venezuela's contention that the arbitral award of 1899 is null and void.

The Guyana delegation assured the standing committee that Guyana intended to honour fully, as in the past, its obligations under that agreement. The standing committee supported the view that this search for a peaceful solution should in no way frustrate the development of the country's resources.

Apartheid in sport: In discussing recent developments in this matter, the ministers considered the action taken by the English cricket and county board in banning the 13 English cricketers now playing in South Africa, from representing England for a period of three years. They also addressed their attention to the question of Caribbean participation in the Commonwealth games taking place in Brisbane, Australia, this year.